

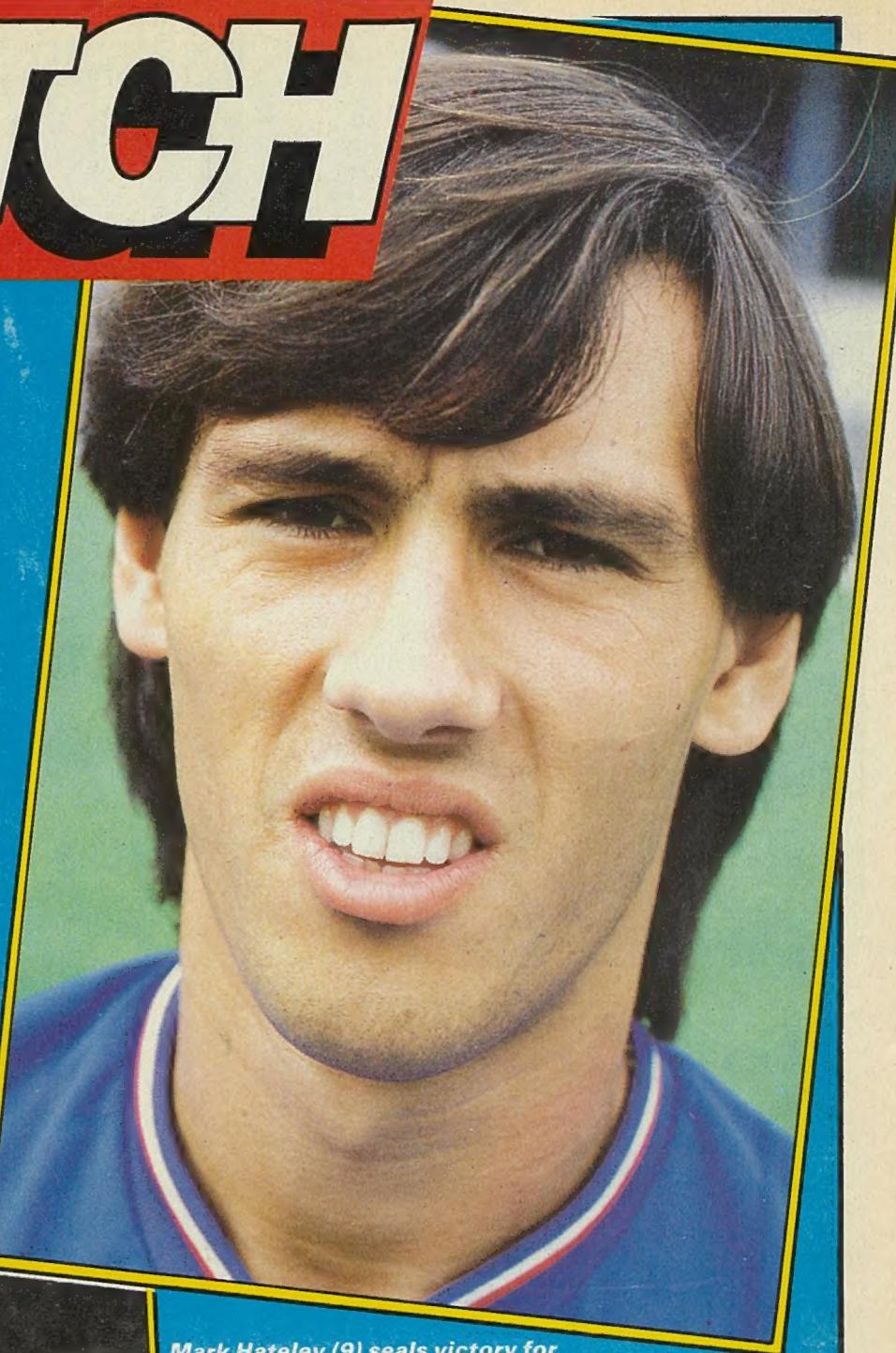
match

YOUR TOP
SOCCER WEEKLY

Saturday July 14 1984 38p

'THE GOAL THAT CHANGED MY LIFE'

-MARK HATELEY



Mark Hateley (9) seals victory for England over Brazil with the goal that sent AC Milan scurrying for their cheque book.

**REVEALED:
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'ONE GOAL.'

YOUR check on the wealth of foreign talent in the Italian First Division.

INTER MILAN — Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (West Germany), Liam Brady (Ireland).

ROMA — Roberto Falcao (Brazil), Toninho Cerezo (Brazil).

JUVENTUS — Michel Platini (France), Zbigniew Boniek (Poland).

SAMPDORIA — Trevor Francis (England), Graeme Souness (Scotland).

AC MILAN — Ray Wilkins (England), Mark Hateley (England).

FIorentina — Socrates (Brazil), Daniel Passarella (Argentina).

UDINESE — Zico (Brazil), Edinho (Brazil).

TORINO — Junior (Brazil), Walter Schachner (Austria).

LAZIO — Michael Laudrup (Denmark), Batista (Brazil).

VERONA — Hans Peter Briegel (West Germany), Preben Elkjaer (Denmark).

AVELLINO — Ramon Diaz (Argentina), Barbadillo (Spain).

ASCOLI — Hernandez (Argentina), Ludo Coeck (Belgium).

ATLANTA — Stromberg (Sweden), Larsson (Sweden).

NAPLES — Diego Maradona (Argentina), Dirceu (Brazil).

Mark Hateley — his goal against Brazil opened the door for a move into the soccer big-time with AC Milan.

MARK Hateley relived the goal which changed his life and vowed: "I won't flop in Italy."

As the young striker, who shot to fame by scoring on his full England debut against Brazil, prepared to join glamour club AC Milan, he promised the Italians: "Give me the service and I'll give you the goals."

Mark is full of confidence that he can shine on the world's biggest football stage despite the fact that England team-mate Luther Blissett looks set to return home from AC after a tortuous first season in Italy.

Since his £1 million move from Watford nearly 12 months ago, Luther has scored just five goals in the ultra-defensive Italian League.

And on that showing, it's surprising that AC Milan have gambled on another English striker to spearhead their bid to become the country's top club once again.

But Mark says: "I'm a different type of player to Luther. Although he's quicker than me, I'm better in the air and more aggressive . . . and aggression plays a big part in Italian football."

"Milan are obviously confident that I can do a job for them. The Italians are not stupid. They are very shrewd people and they will have thought long and hard about buying me — especially in view of the disappointment they suffered with Luther."

"Luther may have had problems adjusting to the style of play, but I don't feel that will be the case for me."

"Milan like to use a wide man and that's ideal. If he can get the ball in the box, there's every chance I'll score goals."

Italian football has a reputation for being physical, but Mark says: "I'm not scared of going in where it hurts. I am big enough to look after myself."

"I believe I proved that on England's close-season tour. The South Americans have some of the

match

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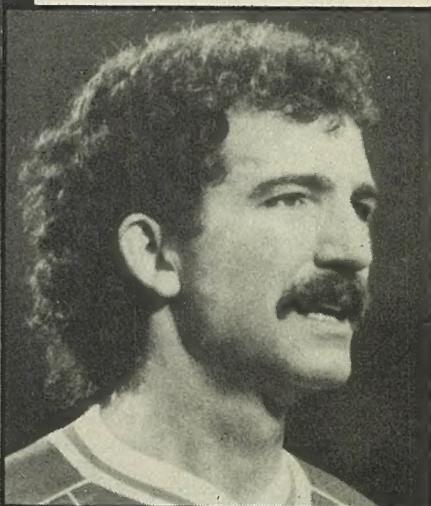
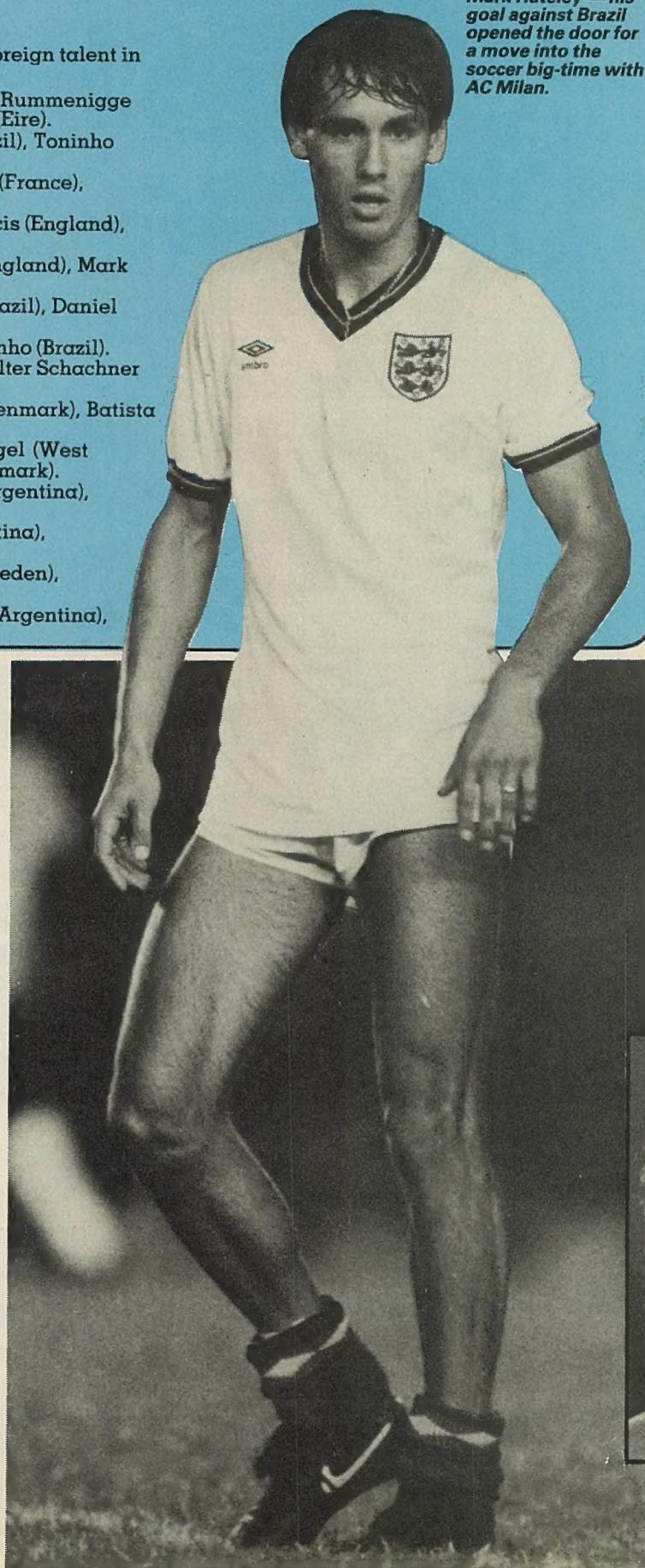
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Above: Scotland skipper Graeme Souness — tempted to Italy by Sampdoria in the close-season.

CHANGED MY LIFE'

—MARK HATELEY

toughest and most physical players in the world, but I managed to cope with them.

"Anyway, Italian football isn't as bad as many people make out. About five years ago it went through the same phase which the Spanish League is going through now.

"But it has quietened down with the arrival of players from other parts of Europe."

Mark is clearly excited about the prospect of playing in Italy next season, although he admits he may still have been a Portsmouth player and facing the prospect of another term in the Second Division had it not been for England's historic win in Brazil's giant Maracana stadium.

His goal — England's second — sent AC Milan scurrying for their cheque book and he says: "It was the most important goal of my career. It changed my life.

"It's been fairly-tale stuff since then and my feet haven't touched the ground. It's all been too much to take in.

"I heard whispers that AC Milan were watching me last season, but it was my header against the Brazilians which opened up all the doors."

That header — from a John Barnes cross — has proved to be worth a fortune for the 22-year-old. He will pocket a cool £650,000 over the next three years.

He says: "It's very flattering to know that one of the biggest clubs in the world want to sign you and even though I thought long and hard about the offer, I couldn't really refuse it.

"With the cash they were offering, I'm now set up for life. I don't have to worry about providing for my wife and two daughters. That pressure has been taken away from me.

"The Italian League is the best in the world and I can't wait for the new season to start. It's going to be like playing in the World Cup every week."

Mark admits that the decision was the toughest of his life and he acknowledges the part played by his England team-mate Ray Wilkins.

He says: "The fact that Ray will also be playing for Milan next season had a big bearing on my move. If I had to face the prospect of going there alone, my decision may well have been different.



Above: former Manchester United star Ray Wilkins — played an important role in Mark's transfer to Italy.

Left: Luther Blissett — looks set for a return home after an unhappy spell with AC Milan.

"But at least I'm going to Italy with someone I know and it will help us settle in if we are both breaking new ground together.

"And it has worked out perfectly for our families. We'll be living near each other so that means our wives won't get lonely."

As soon as England's plane touched down at Heathrow Airport following their successful tour of South America, Mark made it plain that he wanted 'out' of his three-year contract with Portsmouth.

He told 'Match' at the time: "Having broken into the England team, I want to stay there and the best chance of me doing that is for me to be playing in the First Division."

And he hadn't ruled out a move abroad: "I've heard of Italian interest and that would also interest me. I certainly wouldn't mind the challenge — all the top players are out there."

Mark, who cost Portsmouth a paltry £190,000 in comparison for what they are getting from Milan, believes the move to Italy will do his international ambitions more good than if he had stayed in England.

He says: "Playing against world class players every week will make me a better player. It's boosted my chances of becoming an England regular."

Although Mark only went on the close-season tour of South America because the likes of Paul Mariner, Luther Blissett and Trevor Francis were unavailable, he says: "At the moment, I'm the man in possession of the England shirt and it's up to the others to take it off me.

"Because competition for places is so fierce, I had to be sure my contract stipulated that I would be released for all internationals."

Mark's transfer to AC Milan ended a desperate race against time by the club. He was registered less than an hour before the Italians' self-imposed two-year ban on foreign imports was due to start.

He says: "Everything happened so quickly. It was only at 10.30pm the day before the deadline that I was told officially that Portsmouth and Milan had come to an agreement.

"The next morning I rushed

down to London and, after a four-and-a-half-hour slog over terms, I was ready to sign."

After agreeing to the move, Mark had less than two hours to fly out to Italy so that the deal could be officially registered before the deadline.

He says: "I think we made it with about 15 minutes to spare. It was very close."

The next day he and Ray Wilkins attended a Press conference with the club's sponsors and were besieged by thousands of fanatical Milan supporters.

He admits: "I've never experienced anything like it. It took us an hour and a half to get to the club headquarters. The whole city was a mass of Milan supporters."

Mark is not due to meet up with his new team-mates for pre-season training until July 27, but he has already flown out to Italy. He says: "We're having a couple of weeks holiday on the Italian Riviera and then moving straight into our new home.

"I want to be settled in as quickly as possible."



John Wark — swipe at the critics.

'SCOTLAND WOULD HAVE TESTED FRANCE' — John Wark

SCOTTISH international John Wark has taken a swipe at the critics who said no home country team would have 'lived' with the opposition in the European Championship Finals.

Scotland, England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Eire all failed to qualify for the Finals in France.

And the quality of football in the tournament led some people to argue: "It's just as well we weren't there."

But says John, a self-confessed admirer of eventual winners France: 'No team is unbeatable!'

"France looked a great side and, in Michel Platini and Jean Tigana, they have two marvellous players but their 'keeper Joel Bats didn't look too clever."

"I think we could have given them a good game. I'm not saying we would have beaten them but we could have performed better than some of the teams in the Finals."

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England's black diamonds

THE emergence of black stars means that England could now field a team of coloured players to compete with the best in Europe.

Here's how I could see the side lining up:— 1. Alex Williams (Manchester City); 2. Viv Anderson (Nottingham Forest); 3. Danny Thomas (Spurs); 4. Chris Fairclough (Nottingham Forest); 5. Paul Elliott (Luton); 6. Remi Moses (Manchester United); 7. Ricky Hill (Luton); 8. Mark

Chamberlain (Stoke); 9. Cyrille Regis (West Brom); 10. Danny Wallace (Southampton); 11. John Barnes (Watford).

Can you think of a better side? Write and let me know.

MATCH CHAT

COMPILED BY DAVE SMITH

Irvine

OUT-OF-FAVOUR Everton forward Alan Irvine is set to leave Goodison.

The 25-year-old Scot, who joined the "Toffees" from Queen's Park three years ago, lost his place in the side towards the end of last season, and in view of the form of Trevor Steven and Terry Curran, he sees no immediate prospect of returning to first team action.

"I am now third choice behind Trevor and Terry and the thought of season certainly does not appeal to me," he explains.

"I feel that my game has improved each year since I joined Everton but obviously that level of improvement is going to be stifled in the reserves.

"I feel it is in my career's best interests that I start the new season with a new club."

Everton manager Howard Kendall still hasn't resolved his contract dispute with star midfielder Kevin Sheedy. The former Liverpool star hinted he may also leave Goodison.

JIMMY SIGNS ON . . .

FORMER Brighton manager Jimmy Melia has signed a two-year contract with Portuguese side Belenenses, the club he steered back to the First Division last season.

The balding extrovert has been in Portugal since being sacked as manager of Brighton after taking them to the FA Cup Final last year.

UNWELCOME VISITORS

NORWICH boss Ken Brown has called for a ban on visiting fans to combat hooliganism . . . and increase home support.

"It's sad to even contemplate taking such a measure but I genuinely believe you would then avoid the confrontations that are all too common now," says the Carrow Road manager.

"Norwich are not a big club and I feel the way to increase our support is to encourage the kind of atmosphere where whole families will come along to watch us and make it a good day out."

■ CENTRE-BACK Nobby Clark is the new manager of Queen of the South. The big defender, who joined the Dumfries club from Partick Thistle nine years ago, takes over from Drew Busby who resigned at the end of last season following the team's failure to win promotion to the First Division.

HAMMER RAY IS LEADING FANCY!

RAY Stewart is hoping to follow in the illustrious footsteps of Bobby Moore and Billy Bonds and become the next captain of West Ham.

With 'Bonzo' no longer wishing to be considered as a first team regular, manager John Lyall now has the task of appointing a new leader for next season.

He went on record as saying that Ray Stewart looked a skipper for the future when the Scot first arrived at Upton Park and the international full-back makes no secret of the fact that he would love the job.

"Being captain of any side is a great honour and carries tremendous responsibility," says Ray. "but I thrive on pressure — that's why I enjoy taking penalties so much.

"Following two tremendous skippers such as Bobby Moore and Billy Bonds would be a formidable task, but I'm confident I could make a success of it ... should I be asked."



Ray Stewart — taking over from Bonds?

They said it!

DAVE SMITH takes his weekly look back at soccer sayings of the past. Right or wrong, like it or not, they said it . . .

ONE YEAR AGO

ALAN Sunderland was talking about the arrival at Arsenal of striker Charlie Nicholas when he said: "Charlie will have the fans flocking back to Highbury. It's difficult to say how he will fit into the side because we don't know where he is going to play . . . or who he will be alongside. I could be the man to stand down!"

● *Spot on Alan! The fans flocked back . . . and you stood down.*

TWO YEARS AGO

FOLLOWING the World Cup Finals, Kevin Keegan was discussing his future as an England international: "I'm not taking anything for granted. New England boss Bobby Robson will have his own thoughts. He'll want to bring in players he can associate himself with from the start and I think it very unlikely that I am included in his plans. Naturally I would love to play for him but it would be hoping for a lot."

● *Especially when you come out and say you NEVER want to play for England again!*

THREE YEARS AGO

TOMMY Docherty had just taken over as manager of Preston when he said: "I hope I can get Preston back into the First Division without spending millions of pounds on players. I'm hoping this will be my last club. I started here and I'd like to finish here."

● *Maybe Wolves will be the last one, Doc?*

FOUR YEARS AGO

BRIAN Clough on the subject of foreign imports was telling 'Match': "I made tentative enquiries about the French midfield player Michel Platini but, when I found out what his personal demands would be, I lost interest."

● *Raimondo Ponte — the foreigner Brian eventually did sign — might have proved less costly but I bet Platini would have paid his way in turnstile receipts!*

IT'LL BE TOUGH FOR TONY

TONY COTTEE refuses to accept his first team place is safe . . . despite finishing last season as West Ham's leading scorer with 19 goals.

"I know next season will probably be even tougher. With Paul Goddard fit again, the competition for first team places is going to be even greater.

"I'm confident in my own ability, however, and all I can do is give my best and leave the problem of team selection up to the manager."

Indeed, it was the injury to Paul Goddard which gave Tony his chance at Upton Park. "Last August I never dreamed I would play a full season but when the chance came along I jumped at it," he says.

"Mind you, the pressure is on from the very first game to the last. There's simply no let up at all and there were times when I finished a game completely shattered."

DID YOU KNOW?

NO other club among the whole 91 has gone as long as Nottingham Forest without conceding a hat-trick. The last player to achieve it was Mel Machin for Norwich City in October 1974.

Free . . . but not easy!

CLYDE manager Craig Brown has hit out at the demands of players on free transfers.

Scanning the lists in the hope of adding to his squad, the Shawfield boss received one or two nasty shocks in his approaches to players.

"There is no way I will pay the sort of money some of these men want," he affirms. "And I will now be looking to the juvenile and amateur ranks to get some up-and-coming players who could do a good job for Clyde on a more long-term basis."

■ SINCE the last war, only 16 players have marked their League debuts by scoring a hat-trick . . . and the last player to achieve the feat was Colin Viljoen for Ipswich against Portsmouth in March 1967.

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■ THE name of striker Robbie Cooke, who made 34 League appearances for Cambridge last season, was inadvertently omitted from our 'Club Fact File' series (Match, June 9).

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WHO'S YOUR DISHIEST PLAYER?



Dishy — Kerry Dixon?

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Is it the boyish good looks of Aston Villa's Gary Shaw? Or maybe it's Chelsea's new scoring idol Kerry Dixon that makes your heart beat faster.

Then again it might be the rippling muscles of England goalkeeper Peter Shilton or that trendy Scot Charlie Nicholas that send shivers down your spine.

Maybe England skipper Bryan Robson's sexy knees or



Glenn Hoddle — last year's heart-throb.

Glenn Hoddle's athletic frame turn you on.

Some might go for the good looks of Ipswich Town's Russell Osman, the shy charm of Watford's scoring sensation Maurice Johnston or the blond locks of Liverpool's new signing Paul Walsh.

Whatever your choice, put your pen to paper now and send your letters to: 'My Dishiest Player', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.



Dishy — Gary Shaw?



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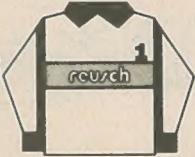


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By ANTHONY HAWKSWELL

CHELSEA's 'man mountain' Micky Droy this week faced up to the heartbreak of leaving the club that has been his home for the last 14 years.

The giant defender — promised a job for life at the club only last season — is ready to leave his beloved Stamford Bridge, admitting sadly: "There's no time left for sentiment. I've got to accept that there's no future for me at Chelsea and move on."

The former Chelsea skipper hasn't played a Canon League game since the arrival from Morton of Joe McLaughlin in the close-season last year and he could only watch from the

sidelines as John Neal's men swept to the Second Division Championship.

"Obviously I'm very disappointed that I'll have to leave the club, but this type of decision comes to everyone at some stage in his career."

"I've got an enormous affection for the place — because Chelsea was the only club I wanted to play for. It will be like leaving home."

Micky admits that last season was a nightmare for him and says: "It was terrible not being involved. The season was a personal disaster."

"For the first two thirds of the season was in the reserves and then I had to have a cartilage operation."

"When you are out of the first team reckoning, you tend to get

pushed into the background and that's exactly what happened to me."

"Although I was very happy to see the club go up last season, their success didn't help me. I couldn't really go barging into the manager's office and complain about not being picked when the team was winning."

Micky looked set for a long stay at the Bridge following manager John Neal's public declaration that he could remain with the club for life.

Says Micky: "Obviously it was very flattering to hear that, but since then nothing has materialised. Neither the manager or chairman Ken Bates have mentioned it again."

It's a sad end for a player whose loyalty to Chelsea has been total. He admits: "I had plenty of opportunities to leave when things were dodgy for the club a few years back."

"I could have left and made myself more money with other

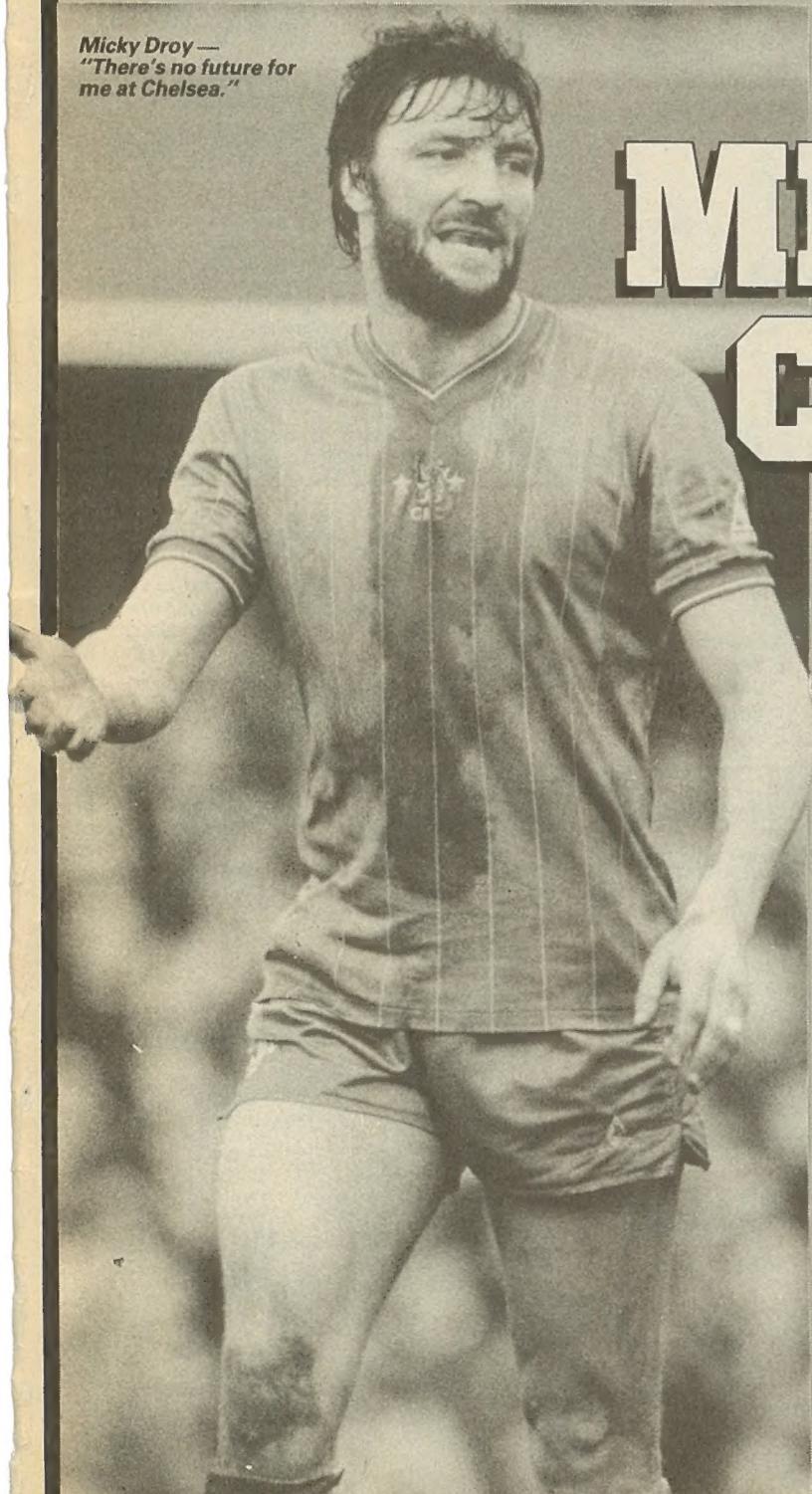
Micky Droy —
"There's no future for
me at Chelsea."



Joe McLaughlin — the bargain buy from Morton who kept former skipper Micky Droy out of the Chelsea side last season.

MICKY'S CHELSEA CHOKER

'I'VE GOT NO FUTURE HERE'



clubs, but cash has never been my prime motivator.

"I just couldn't desert them when they were struggling. I wanted to help them out," says Micky, who looked to be on his way to Portsmouth last season.

He says: "I would have liked to have moved before the end of the season but I wasn't fit. The cartilage injury put a stop to any transfer dealings."

Micky is still trying to shrug off the trouble and earlier this month began light training at Stamford Bridge in a bid to be 100 per cent for the start of the new season.

He says: "It's been very frustrating because the problem has taken twice as long as normal to clear up. After the first operation, I was just two weeks away from playing again when I had to go back for more surgery. The knee just wasn't right."

Micky is convinced that even at the age of 33, he can still do a good job for any club. He says: "There's still at least two years of football left in me."

"My first priority is to get fully fit but after that I'm sure someone

will come in for me. Clubs are always on the look-out for new players.

"Ideally I'd like to get fixed up with a London club. My family are happy in the capital and I'm too old to start thinking about uprooting them."

Micky, who has made 263 League appearances for the West London club, joined Chelsea when they were in their heyday and one of the top teams in the country.

He says: "When I arrived here Chelsea were a great club and had international players like Peter Osgood, Peter Bonetti, Alan Hudson and Charlie Cooke."

"In my first three years here, we won the FA Cup, European Cup Winners' Cup and reached the Final of the League Cup."

"After that there were a lot of changes and the club went through a really bad time. One of the biggest problems was the building of the gigantic West Stand."

"It took years to recover from that financial burden and the club were forced to sell their best players to survive."

Top Ten Quiz

TEST your soccer knowledge with this quick quiz. Score 8-10 excellent; 6-8 good; 4-6 average; below 4 poor.

1 Who scored for France in this year's European Championship Final against Spain?

2 Striker Brian Marwood changed clubs in the close season. Which teams were involved in the deal?

3 Peter McCloy signed a two year contract for which Scottish Premier Division club last season?

4 At which club did Newcastle midfield star David McCreery start his League

career?

5 Where do Fourth Division Exeter play?

6 Two Luton team-mates made their full England debuts against France last season. Who were they?

7 Which two teams were promoted to the Scottish Premier Division last season?

8 Name Birmingham striker Mick Harford's three previous League clubs?

9 Who is manager of Fourth Division Chester?

10 Who is Wolves' record signing?

SOCCERWORD

1. The home of the UEFA Cup holders. (5,4,4)

2. National Championship that is no more. (7)

3. An injury on this foot joint would be painful. (5)

4. Derby's nickname. (4)

5. Where every striker wants his shots to go. (2,3,3)

6. A married female supporter of Real Madrid or Barcelona, perhaps. (6)

7. Celtic and Scotland winger. (6)

8. The greatest game in the world. (8)

9. Dutch star who played in both the 1974 and 1978 World Cup Finals. (4)

10. See 12 Down.

11. He was Manchester City's top scorer last term. (7)

12. Talented entertainers, but they usually lack consistency. (6,7)

13. His last minute equaliser sent the 1966 WC Final into extra-time. (5)

14. Dundee United player who was previously with St. Mirren, Hibs, Rangers, Stoke City and Sunderland. (4,5)

15. Christian name of Ipswich star Gates. (4)

16. See 6 Down.

17. They put a lot of work into schools football. (8)

18. and 4 Down. One of the top clubs in Greece. (1,1,1, and 6)

19. The FA Cup holders. (7)

20. and 21 Across. Good advice for a defender under pressure. (5,4, and 5)

21. German star who won a European Cup medal with Hamburg before moving to Standard Liege. (8)

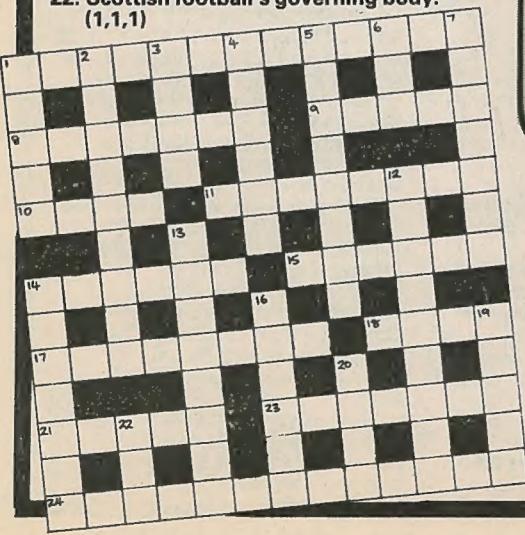
22. The wrong man to be in charge of a tough match. (4,3)

23. A costly mistake, perhaps. (4,2)

24. You'll find Elland Road here. (5)

25. The 'keeper must take charge of the goal ----. (4)

26. Scottish football's governing body. (1,1,1)



MATCH THEM UP

CAN you match up these European Championship stars with their correct countries?

- 1 Preben Elkjaer
- 2 Fernando Chalana
- 3 Maxime Bossis
- 4 Jose Camacho
- 5 Safet Susic

- A France
- B Yugoslavia
- C Denmark
- D Portugal
- E Spain

Player jumble

UNRAVEL the jumble to reveal the identity of a midfield star who helped take the European Championship to France for the first time in the country's history.

**nja
tEiA
tagn**

CRYPTIC QUIZ

1 This Ipswich player might 'bridge' the Thames!

2 A 'Toffelman' who certainly couldn't be accused of being blunt!

3 Aston Villa striker who sounds certain enough!

4 This Brighton midfielder could be useful at holiday time!

5 Norwich player who is handy when things get broken!

DO YOU KNOW YOUR SOCCER?

STOP THE ACTION

HERE'S action from a League Cup Semi-Final. With the help of the picture how many of the following questions can you answer?

- 1 Which teams are playing and what was the year?
- 2 Can you name the three players clearly pictured?
- 3 Two players have since moved on. Who are they and where do they now play?
- 4 Who won the League Cup that year and where did they lift the trophy?

ANIMAL MAGIC

CAN you identify these Canon League clubs from the animals which appear on their club crests?

A



B



C



SOLUTIONS

ANIMAL MAGIC: A: Wolves; B: Brighton; C: Gillingham.
TOP TEN JUMBLE: 1. Michael Platini and Bruno Bellone; 2. Hull; 3. Sheffield Wednesday; 4. Paul Mcgrath; 5. Jim Leighton; 6. Paul Welsh; 7. Rangers; 8. Jimmy Case; 9. John Mcgrath; 10. Andy Gray (now Bristol City); 11. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 12. Dennis Tuehrings (now Bristol City); 13. Huub Stevens (now Bristol City); 14. Gary Shaw; 15. Jimmy Case; 16. Peter Menchini; 17. Cheltenham Town; 18. Kiro; 19. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 20. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 21. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 22. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 23. Peter Taylor; 24. Alan Hansen; 25. Gary Teekens; 26. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 27. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 28. Alan Hansen; 29. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 30. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 31. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 32. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 33. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 34. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 35. Steve Heighway (now Bristol City); 36. 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Wembley Wizards

NO 5

ALAN TAYLOR

Fulham 0, West Ham 2
(WEST HAM)

Wembley, Saturday, May 3, 1975

FA Cup Final, hero Alan Taylor

Wembley's first of six months

in the fourth Division

the former Preston

reject, Cockney

destroying three

rounds of the Cup

to score six goals

in 18 years, then 21,

became a dream come

true. "Wembley



The new adidas Profi. It could make a big impact on the



Shinpads right up to the shoulders? Crash helmets?

Is this what the game is coming to?

Perhaps not.

But some kind of drastic action certainly needs to be taken when you're on the wrong end of a shot from the new adidas Profi.

They shoot up to 10% harder, 10% faster than the boots you're wearing now.

It sounds like an impossible claim. Until you examine the underlying facts.

Look at the Profi's sole. adidas have discovered an extremely elastic fibre-glass based material—the black material shown in the diagram. So the ball doesn't just bounce off.

The sole actually retracts like a spring.

And when it recoils it unleashes considerable extra power in your shot.

The ball goes further, harder and faster. Which is bad news for the guy who's actually paid to get in the way.

At adidas, when we set out to design any sports shoe, the first thing we do is study the sport and how it's played.

Everyone knows what footballers do most.

They run.

So it's surprising that not every football shoe is

also a running shoe.

The Profi is. The softer red material in the sole combines with the elastic black area to give terrific flexibility.

So you get extra power in the short sprints. And because you don't have to work so hard to bend the shoe, you expend less energy throughout the match.

The stud sockets are also placed for optimum flexibility, as well as maximum grip.

And they're directly injected into the hard white material—so while the studs are biting into the turf, they're not doing the same to your foot.

Throughout 90 minutes of football, you need more than power, speed and flexibility.

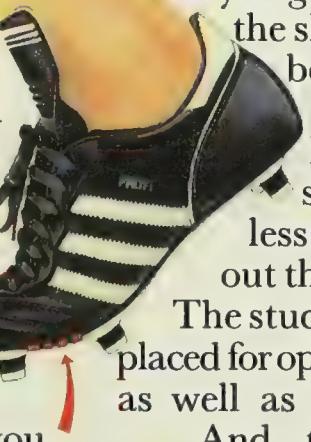
You need comfort, too. The Profi's upper is of soft kangaroo leather.

It's flexible as well as comfortable. So it ensures the best possible contact with the ball.

And the cushioned adidas insole offers shock absorption even on the hardest grounds.

So you'll feel comfortable right through the game.

Which is more than you can say for the keeper in the picture.



A 60-year track record



STANTON Town chairman Sam McDonald has been overthrown in a boardroom battle. And new chairman Dave Dawkins, who heads tour firm Cosmic Holidays — Stanton Town's sponsors — has plans for the Abbey Road club.

Dawkins' proposals include the sale of Nick Cannon — manager Harry Cannon's son and Town's star player — and a place on the staff for Joe Storey, whose long-running feud with Harry last season has earned him a free transfer.

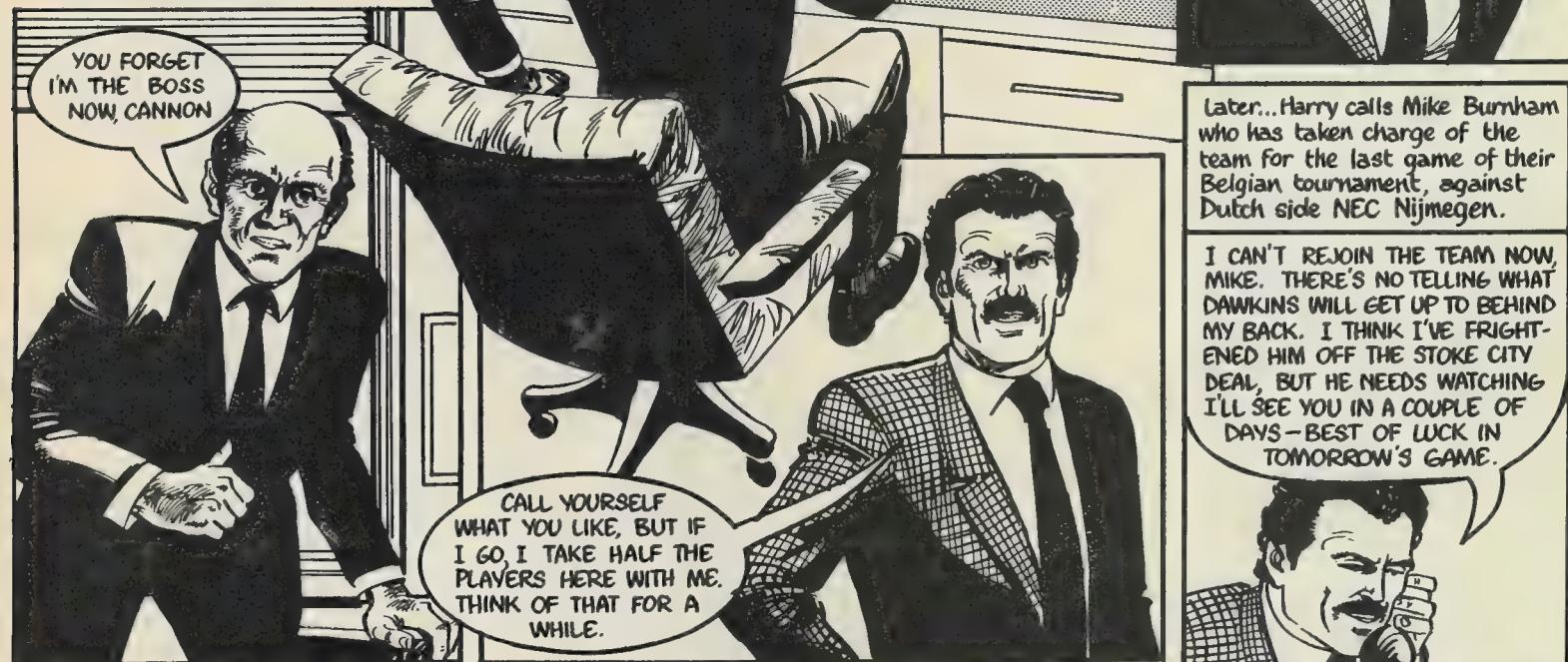
Harry races back from Belgium, where Stanton are playing in a four-team tournament, to confront Dawkins.

DRAWN BY RON TINER

Cannon wastes no time in returning to England for his crunch meeting with new Stanton chairman Dave Dawkins.

IT'S AN OFFER WE CAN'T REFUSE. STOKE CITY HAVE OFFERED £100,000 FOR NICK. WE'VE GOT TO SELL. AND AS FAR AS JOE STOREY IS CONCERNED, HE'S TOO VALUABLE TO BE A FREE TRANSFER. I'VE TOLD HIM HE'S STAYING.

NO WAY! STANTON CAN BE A TOP CLUB AGAIN BUT NOT IF WE SELL OUR BEST PLAYERS AND KEEP THE BAD ONES. WHILE I'M MANAGER I MAKE THE DECISIONS ON WHO GOES AND WHO STAYS.



Stanton's final performance in Belgium again underlines their need for a stronger squad as they prepare to step up into a higher class. The Dutch Second Division outfit stretch the Stanton defence on a number of occasions —



George Baranski is caught in possession and, when the Dutch winger races clear with the ball, it takes a sliding tackle from Jack Cannon to save the day.



WAKE UP, GEORGE.
YOU HAD TIME TO
CLEAR THAT BALL.

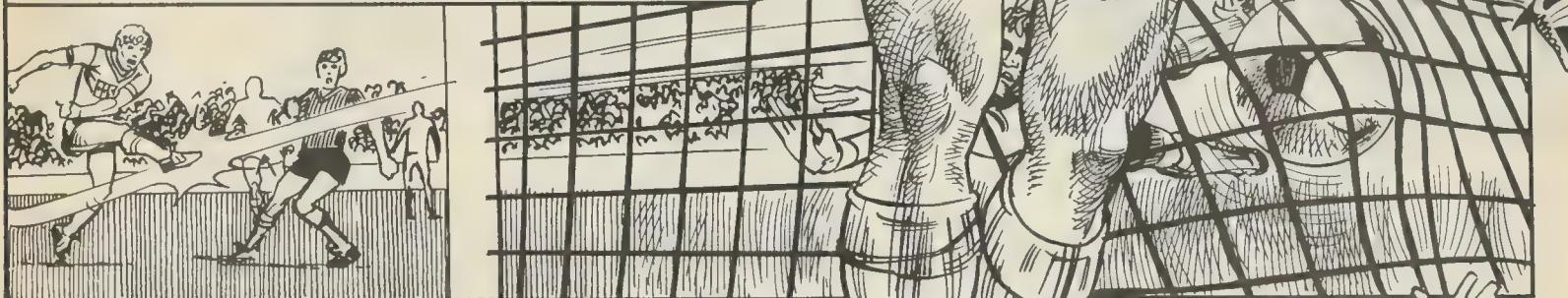
YEH, UH,
SORRY
JACK

Later in the first half, Tom Paterson completely mistimes his jump for a cross and when the ball drops over his head, the centre-forward's shot goes narrowly wide.

It is against the run of play when 17-year-old Stan Steele, one of the few successes of the tournament threads a great ball through the Dutch defence...



...for Jimmy Taggart to collect and rifle into the net.



But with Nijmegen continuing to dominate the game in the second half, it is no surprise when Phil McEwan is forced to trip a Dutch striker in the area...

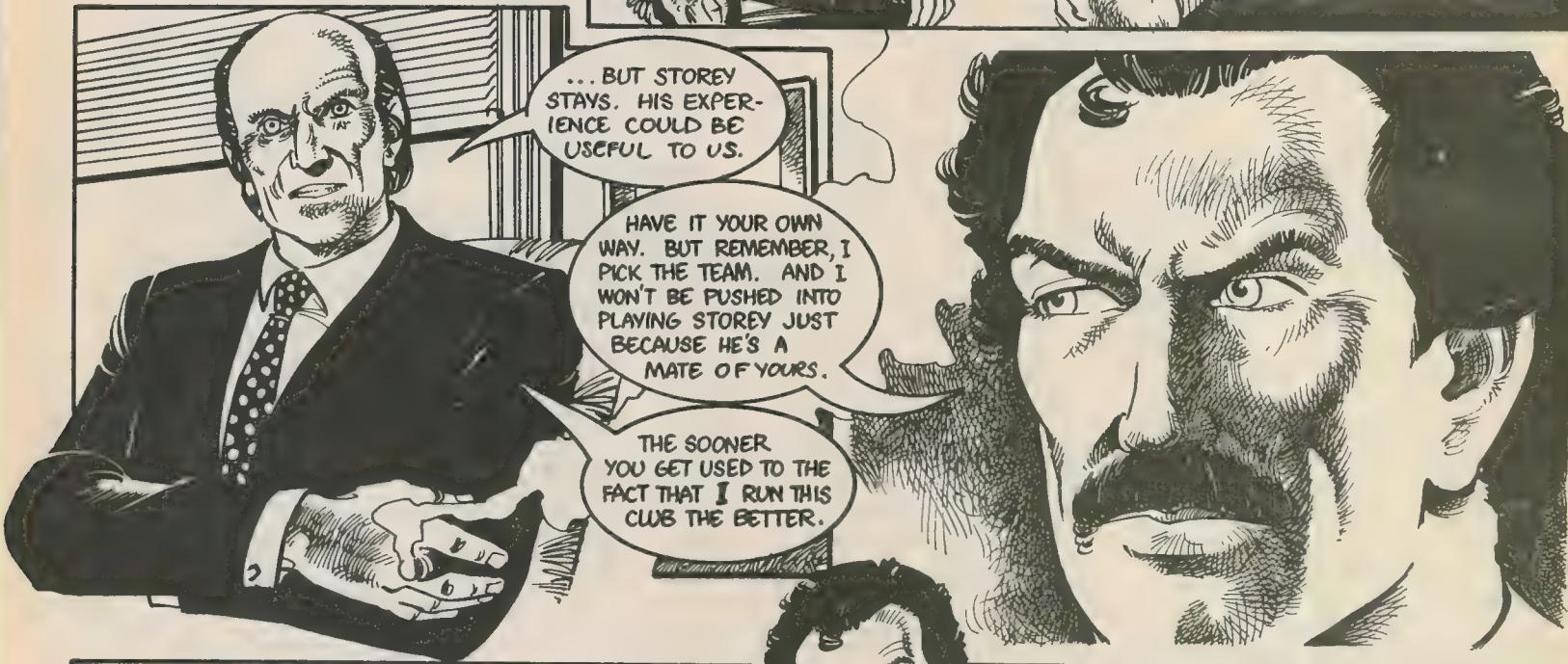


The score remains at 1-1 and Stanton have to be satisfied with third place in the final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Winterslag	3	2	1	0	7	5	5
Nijmegen	3	1	2	0	5	3	4
STANTON	3	0	2	1	2	4	2
Tours	3	0	1	2	2	6	1

As Stanton travel back to England, Harry is having a second meeting with Dave Dawkins.

I'VE RECONSIDERED THINGS AFTER OUR LITTLE DISCUSSION YESTERDAY AND I'VE DECIDED IT WOULD BE BETTER TO KEEP NICK CANNON AT STANTON



On the team's return from Belgium, Harry's first job is to sort out the future of his other son, Jack, whose loan period has ended.

I'VE SPOKEN TO HOWARD KENDALL AT EVERTON...

...AND HE'S PREPARED TO LET YOU REJOIN STANTON AT THE RIGHT PRICE - PROVIDING YOU ARE WILLING. OTHERWISE YOU CAN FIGHT FOR YOUR PLACE AT GOODISON.

WELL, I DON'T KNOW, DAD, I'VE ALWAYS FELT I COULD PLAY AT A HIGHER LEVEL

STAYING AT ABBEY ROAD COULD DAMAGE MY CAREER.

IT COULD ALSO TAKE YOU TO THE TOP QUICKER THAN YOU THINK, JACK. A PROMOTION PLACE ISN'T OUT OF REACH BY ANY MEANS NEXT SEASON - AND YOU'RE THE KIND OF PLAYER WE NEED TO MAKE IT. HAVE A THINK ABOUT THINGS AND WE'LL TALK AGAIN LATER.

Later that evening, Jack discusses the future with his new girlfriend at a local restaurant

I'D REALLY LIKE TO GO TO A TOP FIRST DIVISION CLUB, JENNY. I'M SURE I'D MAKE IT. AND IT'S NOT ONLY THAT -NICK IS THE ONE WHO ALWAYS SEEMS TO GET THE GLORY. IT'S BEEN THAT WAY SINCE WE WERE KIDS IN AUSTRALIA. I FEEL I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HIS SHADOW.

BUT NICK THINKS THE WORLD OF YOU JACK. AND ...ER... SO DO I. I'D HARDLY EVER SEE YOU IF YOU LEFT STANTON -AND I COULDN'T STAND THAT.

TRouble is, nor could I. what a decision to have to make.

NEXT WEEK: Everton or Stanton? Jack makes his choice.

BILLY Thomson told this week how he feared for his future as Scotland's number two goalkeeper. The 26-year-old faced the grim prospect of reserve team football at St Mirren next season following a row with manager Alex Miller. The 6ft 2ins 'keeper lost his first team place for the final five matches of the last campaign and

he was unlikely to be re-instated while operating on a weekly contract.

And that would almost certainly have spelled the end of his chances of remaining in the Scotland squad as shadow to Aberdeen's top stopper Jim Leighton.

But an out-of-the-blue phone call from Dundee United manager Jim McLean, a former assistant to national team boss Jock Stein, has come to Billy's rescue.

And his dramatic £75,000 transfer to Tannadice may have come just in time to prevent him being axed from Scotland's early World Cup plans.

Billy, capped six times by

Scotland, admits that he was concerned about his future: "As the weeks went by, I became more and more worried about the situation with no sign of any clubs making an official move."

"There were a lot of rumours about certain clubs being interested, but nothing concrete and I could see myself back at St Mirren next season on a weekly contract until something was sorted out."

"There was never any chance of me signing a long-term contract. I made it known early last season that this would be my last spell with St Mirren. With all due respect, I wanted to join a bigger club and improve my chances of winning things."

Billy's happy six-year spell at Paisley was only soured towards the end of the season when he was dropped for the last five games.

"I don't really know why I was left out. It was nothing to do with my form, but probably due in the main to a clash of personalities with the manager."

"Since then, I've been concerned about my international future because Scotland wouldn't be very interested in selecting a goalkeeper who was playing for St Mirren reserves."

He was visiting his sister when the dramatic call from Tannadice offered him a new challenge and the opportunity to win major club honours.

After making a car dash to Dundee, he accepted a five-year contract within a matter of hours.

"I know a little about Jim McLean's ability and attitude having been involved with him on international duty," says Billy.

"He's very professional in his outlook and I'm looking forward to the challenge of playing for him. He's a hard man to please, but that doesn't worry me so long as I'm doing the job. I'm just happy to get away and start afresh."

Billy's arrival at Tannadice could mean the end of the road for 36-year-old veteran goalkeeper Hamish McAlpine, who has been something of an institution at the club.

Dundee United give Billy a Scotland lifeline

THOMSON'S TWIN JOY

Hamish McAlpine — threatened.

Billy Thomson — rescued.

"I don't know what the situation is with Hamish, but I'm going to the club with the intention of being number one," says Billy.

"I can't imagine United have spent all that money to play me in the reserves, but that doesn't mean I won't have to fight for my place. I need the pressure to keep me on my mettle."

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Round-the-world Rangers on the title warpath!

NEW Rangers striker Iain Ferguson this week refuted suggestions that the club's round-the-world close-season tour was no more than a public relations exercise for the Red Cross.

Despite a catalogue of calamity which saw five players seriously injured, the 21-year-old rates the trip a resounding success. And not just because he escaped without any broken bones!

Indeed, he believes the tour can prove to be the springboard from which the Ibrox side can launch a major assault on all honours in the new season.

"When you are eating, living and travelling together, it builds up team spirit and, when we were hit by the injury problems, it served only to make us a tighter unit as we fought to shrug off the jinx label which the critics seemed only too happy to stick on the tour.

"We will start the new season next month with the intention of winning every game and every trophy in sight."

On a personal note for the

£200,000 signing from Dundee, the trip was an ideal baptism in his new club's colours.

"There can't be many better ways of getting to know your new team-mates than going off on tour for five weeks," says Iain.

"In next to no time, I was one of the lads — as if I had been with Rangers for years.

"The trip also gave me the chance to make a low-key debut. In my first game against Australia 'B', I was able to go about my business like any other player with no pressure from the media or a big Ibrox crowd.

"I was able to adjust to the obvious problems of playing alongside new team-mates and I'm happy with the way things turned out. I played reasonably well, bagged a couple of goals and I'm very confident that when the new season gets under way I can do a good job for Rangers."

Much will depend on how well 'Fergie' links up with League Cup Final hero Ally McCoist and the strong-running Ian Redford.

And the service from enigmatic winger Davie Cooper and classy



Above: Iain Ferguson — confident.

Right: Davie Cooper — vital role.

midfield man Bobby Russell must not be wasted as frequently as it was last term if the 'Light Blues' are to seriously challenge for Aberdeen's title.

"There is an air of confidence about the squad and we are all convinced that this can be a big year for us," says Iain.

■ SCOTLAND'S former 'Player of the Year' Andy Ritchie has been appointed player-coach of Albion Rovers. The ex-Celtic, Morton and Motherwell star will initially run the Coatbridge club in partnership with two directors but, if he gets the desired results, he could be in complete control early in the new term.



■ FALKIRK defender Brian Brown's shock decision to emigrate to Australia saw manager Billy Lamont leap into the transfer market to sign centre-half Jim Dempsey on a free from Clyde.

McLean gives Motherwell a ring of confidence

THE McLean brothers certainly believe in keeping things in the family.

Tommy McLean decided to turn his back on the temptations of Premier League football when he left newly-promoted Morton to take over as manager of Motherwell — a post once occupied by older brother Willie.

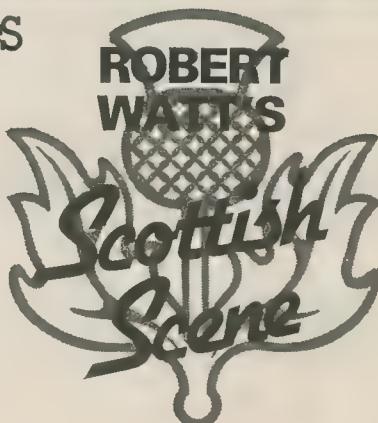
And who succeeded Tommy as boss at Cappielow? None other than the self-same Willie McLean.

The motivating factor in Tommy's move to Motherwell following Bobby Watson's resignation was, as he explained, the greater likelihood of success at Fir Park.

"There is tremendous potential at Motherwell," he says. "The club have a big 'sleeping' support and I intend to bring those fans back through the turnstiles."

"I am greedy for success and I believe the fans feel the same, so that gives me a good basis to start working on."

"As far as the players are concerned, I am not interested in



losers. Any who are inclined to feel sorry for themselves will be replaced."

Of course, the departure of the man who guided Morton to last season's First Division Championship was a great disappointment to all at Cappielow. But they wasted no time in appointing his successor.

Just 24 hours after returning to Scotland from Cyprus — where he had taken Pezizorikos Larnaca to the Cup Final — Willie McLean was in charge at Greenock and squaring up to the job.

"There are one or two problems with unsigned players but I believe these problems can be solved," he says.

"It certainly was a fast-moving

seven days. At the weekend, I was a bit down after Pezizorikos had lost in extra-time in the Cypriot Cup Final. I had set my heart on leaving them on a high note.

"But before I had time to realise what was happening, I was home and in charge of a Premier Division club."

■ FORMER St Mirren manager Ricky McFarlane may hold the key to Queen of the South's goal power...

A qualified physiotherapist, he is currently treating Palmerston goal ace Jimmy Robertson for a knee ligament problem. And the good news is that he's confident the player will be in tip-top condition when the new season kicks off next month.

■ HAMILTON ACCIES will entertain Blackpool in a pre-season friendly at Douglas Park on Saturday, July 28.

SIGI DEAL SETBACK

RANGERS' hopes of signing Icelandic teenager Sigi Jonsson have met with an unexpected hiccup.

The talented 18-year-old has picked up a bad knee injury while playing with his club Akranes and he is now in plaster up to his thigh.

He is certain to be out of action until late in the year and, clearly, any possible transfer will be put on ice until he proves he is back to his best.

But while Rangers boss Jock Wallace will be disappointed, Wales manager Mike England and his Scottish counterpart Jock Stein are unlikely to shed any tears. Jonsson's injury rules him out of the World Cup ties against the Welsh (September 9 and November 14) and against Scotland at Hampden on October 17.

CLARK WON'T LASH OUT

COWDENBEATH manager John Clark has hit out at the transfer fees being demanded by some clubs as he strives to put his Central Park squad together for the big kick-off.

"Money is scarce, we all know that, but it would be a lot scarcer if one or two clubs had their way," he says.

I approached two Second Division clubs about players and the figures quoted were £20,000 and £10,000. How on earth can they justify asking a modest club like Cowdenbeath for that sort of money?

"Even if I was still with Celtic, I would not have parted with those amounts."

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Season 84/85

FILL IN
YOUR
OWN
RESULTS

Aug 25 — Orient.....	H
Sep 1 — Walsall.....	A
Sep 8 — Wigan.....	H
Sep 15 — Newport.....	A
Sep 18 — Rotherham.....	A
Sep 22 — Swansea.....	H
Sep 29 — Cambridge.....	A
Oct 2 — Doncaster.....	H
Oct 6 — Bradford.....	H
Oct 13 — Millwall.....	A
Oct 20 — Gillingham.....	H
Oct 23 — Burnley.....	A
Oct 27 — York.....	H
Nov 3 — Bristol City.....	A
Nov 7 — Derby.....	A
Nov 10 — Lincoln.....	H
Nov 24 — Bournemouth.....	A
Dec 1 — Bolton.....	H
Dec 15 — Preston.....	A
Dec 22 — Hull.....	A
Dec 26 — Bristol Rovers.....	H
Dec 29 — Reading.....	H
Jan 1 — Plymouth.....	A
Jan 5 — Orient.....	A
Jan 12 — Walsall.....	H
Jan 19 — Wigan.....	A



Francis Joseph — Brentford's top scorer last season.

BRENTFORD Division 3

Jan 26 — Newport.....	H
Feb 2 — Cambridge.....	H
Feb 9 — Swansea.....	A
Feb 12 — Rotherham.....	H
Feb 16 — Doncaster.....	A
Feb 23 — Bristol City.....	H
Mar 2 — York.....	A
Mar 5 — Burnley.....	H
Mar 9 — Gillingham.....	A
Mar 16 — Millwall.....	H
Mar 23 — Bradford.....	A
Mar 30 — Derby.....	H
Apr 6 — Bristol Rovers.....	A
Apr 8 — Plymouth.....	H
Apr 13 — Lincoln.....	A
Apr 20 — Bournemouth.....	H
Apr 27 — Bolton.....	A
May 4 — Preston.....	H
May 6 — Reading.....	A
May 11 — Hull.....	H

BRIGHTON Division 2

Eric Young — talented young central defender at Brighton.



HERE'S the second part of your A to Z guide to the 1984-85 League fixtures ... with spaces for you to fill in all the results as they happen.

Over the coming weeks we'll be featuring every team in the English League and Scottish Premier so that, come the start of the season, you'll have a complete guide to who's playing who and when.

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Aug 25 — Wigan.....	H
Sep 1 — Newport.....	A
Sep 8 — Swansea.....	H
Sep 15 — Cambridge.....	A
Sep 18 — Orient.....	H
Sep 22 — Walsall.....	A
Sep 29 — Walsall.....	A
Oct 2 — Rotherham.....	H
Oct 6 — Hull.....	A
Oct 13 — Lincoln.....	H
Oct 20 — Reading.....	A
Oct 23 — Brentford.....	H
Oct 27 — Bolton.....	H
Nov 3 — Preston.....	A
Nov 6 — Gillingham.....	H
Nov 10 — Cambridge.....	A
Nov 24 — Bradford.....	H
Dec 1 — Millwall.....	A
Dec 15 — Swansea.....	H
Dec 22 — Walsall.....	H
Dec 26 — York.....	A
Dec 29 — Bristol City.....	A
Jan 1 — Wigan.....	H
Jan 5 — Plymouth.....	A
Jan 12 — Doncaster.....	H
Jan 19 — Bristol Rovers.....	A
Aug 25 — Carlisle.....	A
Aug 27 — Notts County.....	H
Sep 1 — Huddersfield.....	H
Sep 4 — Wimbledon.....	A
Sep 8 — Cardiff.....	A
Sep 15 — C. Palace.....	H
Sep 22 — Oldham.....	A
Sep 29 — Fulham.....	H
Oct 6 — Birmingham.....	H
Oct 13 — Oxford.....	A
Oct 20 — Barnsley.....	H
Oct 27 — Shrewsbury.....	A
Nov 3 — Man City.....	H
Nov 10 — Blackburn.....	A
Nov 17 — Leeds.....	A
Nov 24 — Middlesbrough.....	H
Dec 1 — Wolves.....	A
Dec 8 — Grimsby.....	H
Dec 15 — Sheff. United.....	A
Dec 22 — Huddersfield.....	A
Dec 26 — Portsmouth.....	H
Dec 29 — Wimbledon.....	H
Jan 1 — Charlton.....	A
Jan 12 — C. Palace.....	A
Jan 19 — Carlisle.....	H
Feb 2 — Fulham.....	A
Feb 9 — Cardiff.....	H
Feb 16 — Blackburn.....	H
Feb 23 — Man. City.....	A
Mar 2 — Shrewsbury.....	H
Mar 9 — Barnsley.....	A
Mar 16 — Oxford.....	H
Mar 23 — Birmingham.....	A
Mar 30 — Oldham.....	H
Apr 6 — Portsmouth.....	A
Apr 8 — Charlton.....	H
Apr 13 — Notts County.....	A
Apr 20 — Leeds.....	H
Apr 27 — Middlesbrough.....	A
May 4 — Bournemouth.....	H
May 6 — Wolves.....	H
May 6 — Grimsby.....	A
May 11 — Sheff. United.....	H

BRISTOL C Division 3

May 4 — Bournemouth.....	H
May 6 — Burnley.....	A
May 6 — Gillingham.....	H
May 11 — Reading.....	H

Aug 25 — Plymouth.....	H
Sep 1 — Doncaster.....	A
Sep 8 — Bristol Rovers.....	H
Sep 15 — Derby.....	A
Sep 18 — Orient.....	A
Sep 22 — Hull.....	H
Sep 29 — Rotherham.....	A
Oct 2 — Newport.....	H
Oct 6 — Bournemouth.....	A
Oct 13 — Lincoln.....	H
Oct 20 — Reading.....	A
Oct 23 — Brentford.....	H
Oct 27 — Bolton.....	H
Nov 3 — Preston.....	A
Nov 6 — Gillingham.....	H
Nov 10 — Cambridge.....	A
Nov 24 — Bradford.....	H
Dec 1 — Millwall.....	A
Dec 15 — Swansea.....	H
Dec 22 — Walsall.....	H
Dec 26 — York.....	A
Dec 29 — Bristol City.....	A
Jan 1 — Wigan.....	H
Jan 5 — Plymouth.....	A
Jan 12 — Doncaster.....	H
Jan 19 — Bristol Rovers.....	A

David Williams — Bristol Rovers' player-manager.



Tommy Hutchison — Burnley's veteran winger.

BURNLEY Division 3

Jan 26 — Derby.....	H
Feb 2 — Rotherham.....	H
Feb 9 — Hull.....	A
Feb 12 — Newport.....	A
Feb 16 — Orient.....	H
Feb 23 — Preston.....	H
Mar 2 — Bolton.....	A
Mar 5 — Bradford.....	H
Mar 16 — Gillingham.....	A
Mar 23 — York.....	H
Mar 30 — Doncaster.....	H
Apr 6 — Plymouth.....	A
Apr 8 — Hull.....	H
Apr 13 — Bristol Rovers.....	A
Apr 20 — Preston.....	H
Apr 27 — Lincoln.....	A
May 4 — Bournemouth.....	H
May 6 — Wigan.....	A
May 6 — Gillingham.....	H
May 11 — Swansea.....	A

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Season 84/85

FILL IN
YOUR
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RESULTS

Aug 25 — Darlington	A
Sep 1 — Halifax	H
Sep 8 — Chester	A
Sep 15 — Colchester	H
Sep 18 — Swindon	H
Sep 22 — Exeter	A
Sep 29 — Chesterfield	H
Oct 1 — Stockport	A
Oct 6 — Southend	H
Oct 13 — Aldershot	A
Oct 20 — Blackpool	A
Oct 23 — Hereford	H
Oct 27 — Scunthorpe	H
Nov 3 — Northampton	A
Nov 6 — Rochdale	A
Nov 10 — Crewe	H
Nov 24 — Mansfield	A
Dec 1 — Torquay	H
Dec 15 — Wrexham	A
Dec 22 — Peterborough	A
Dec 26 — Port Vale	H
Dec 29 — Tranmere	H
Jan 1 — Hartlepool	A
Jan 5 — Darlington	H
Jan 12 — Halifax	A



Martin Dobson — Bury's recently appointed player-manager.

BURY Division 4

Jan 19 — Chester	H
Jan 26 — Colchester	A
Feb 2 — Chesterfield	A
Feb 9 — Exeter	H
Feb 12 — Stockport	H
Feb 16 — Swindon	A
Feb 23 — Northampton	H
Mar 2 — Scunthorpe	A
Mar 6 — Hereford	A
Mar 9 — Blackpool	H
Mar 16 — Aldershot	H
Mar 23 — Southend	A
Mar 30 — Rochdale	H
Apr 6 — Port Vale	A
Apr 8 — Hartlepool	H
Apr 13 — Crewe	A
Apr 20 — Mansfield	H
Apr 27 — Torquay	A
May 4 — Wrexham	H
May 6 — Tranmere	A
May 11 — Peterborough	H

CAMBRIDGE Division 3

Steve Fallon — Cambridge central defender.



Aug 25 — Charlton	H
Sep 1 — Sheff. United	A
Sep 4 — Leeds	H
Sep 8 — Brighton	H
Sep 15 — Barnsley	A
Sep 18 — Blackburn	A
Sep 22 — Man City	H
Sep 29 — Middlesbrough	A
Oct 6 — Portsmouth	H
Oct 13 — Notts County	A
Oct 20 — Fulham	A
Oct 27 — Grimsby	H
Nov 3 — Wolves	A
Nov 10 — Oldham	H
Nov 17 — Carlisle	H
Nov 24 — Huddersfield	A
Dec 1 — Birmingham	H
Dec 8 — C. Palace	A
Dec 15 — Wimbledon	H
Dec 22 — Sheff. United	H
Dec 26 — Oxford	A



Nigel Vaughan — former Newport midfield player at Cardiff.

CARLISLE Division 2

Don O'Riordan — key Carlisle defender last season.



Aug 25 — Brighton	H
Aug 27 — Barnsley	A
Sep 1 — Blackburn	A
Sep 4 — Shrewsbury	H
Sep 8 — Man. City	H
Sep 15 — Birmingham	A
Sep 22 — Sheff. United	H
Sep 29 — Oxford	A
Oct 6 — Wimbledon	A
Oct 13 — C. Palace	H
Oct 20 — Grimsby	A
Oct 27 — Huddersfield	H
Nov 3 — Fulham	H
Nov 10 — Leeds	A
Nov 17 — Cardiff	A
Nov 24 — Notts County	H
Dec 1 — Charlton	A
Dec 8 — Portsmouth	H
Dec 15 — Oldham	A
Dec 22 — Blackburn	H
Dec 26 — Middlesbrough	H
Dec 29 — Shrewsbury	A

Aug 25 — Cardiff	A
Aug 27 — Huddersfield	H
Sep 1 — Notts County	H
Sep 4 — Grimsby	A
Sep 8 — Wolves	A
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Sep 22 — Wimbledon	A
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Oct 6 — Middlesbrough	A
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Oct 20 — Shrewsbury	H
Oct 27 — Barnsley	A
Nov 3 — Leeds	H
Nov 10 — Sheff. United	A
Nov 17 — Birmingham	H
Nov 24 — Blackburn	A
Dec 1 — Carlisle	H
Dec 8 — Oxford	A
Dec 15 — Man. City	H
Dec 22 — Notts County	A
Dec 26 — C. Palace	A



Mike Flanagan — returned to Charlton last season from QPR.

CHARLTON Division 2

Dec 29 — Leeds	A
Jan 1 — Shrewsbury	H
Jan 12 — Barnsley	H
Jan 19 — Charlton	A
Feb 2 — Middlesbrough	H
Feb 9 — Brighton	A
Feb 16 — Oldham	A
Feb 23 — Newport	H
Feb 23 — Wolves	H
Mar 2 — Grimsby	A
Mar 9 — Fulham	H
Mar 16 — Notts County	H
Mar 23 — Walsall	A
Mar 30 — Hull	H
Apr 6 — Bournemouth	A
Apr 6 — Oxford	H
Apr 8 — Bristol Rovers	H
Apr 9 — Shrewsbury	A
Apr 13 — Burnley	A
Apr 20 — Reading	H
Apr 27 — Derby	A
May 4 — Plymouth	H
May 6 — Rotherham	A
May 11 — Bolton	H

Apr 6 — Middlesbrough	A
Apr 8 — Wolves	H
Apr 13 — Sheff. United	A
Apr 20 — Cardiff	H
Apr 27 — Notts County	A
May 4 — Charlton	H
May 6 — Portsmouth	A
May 11 — Oldham	H

'MATCH' really put its reputation on the line before the start of the European Championship Finals when we gave our 'no punches pulled' verdicts on the chances of each of the competing nations.

And at our invitation, eight home country stars named their own team to watch.

How did our forecasts fare? Well, all we can say is: We told you so!

We told you so!

BELGIUM: Match said—Would have been among the three favourites to win but for the bribes scandal which has decimated their national side. Manager Guy Thys needs to work a minor miracle to get his re-shaped defence in proper working order.

● When eventual winners France met Belgium they ran out 5-0 winners... need we say more?

DENMARK: Only France and West Germany appear to stand in their way of European glory. Manager Sepp Piontek has built a settled team and provided they haven't peaked too early they must stand a chance in the Finals.

● They certainly did stand a chance... only going out to Spain on penalties in the Semi-Finals!

FRANCE: They are the form team, have home advantage and produce a brand of entertaining football which deserves to win major championships. Without doubt they will be the team to beat this summer.

● Without doubt!

PORTUGAL: One of the surprise finalists but the success of their club sides in Europe this season suggests they are on their way back. They have the ability to upset the strongest teams on their day but are far too inconsistent to be regarded as possible contenders to the crown.

● On their way back certainly... and it took a last minute goal by 'Man of the Finals' Michel Platini for Champions France to overcome them in a thrilling Semi-Final match!

RUMANIA: Unlike that Rumania's disciplined defensive policy will win many friends in France but while they have the strength at the back to frustrate the leading fancies they lack the craft and firepower to make the most of any real opportunities.

● Rumania scored just two goals and came bottom of their group with one point!

SPAIN: Have the ability to emerge as dark horses for the Championship. Question marks surround their mental attitude

JOHN O'NEILL (NORTHERN IRELAND)

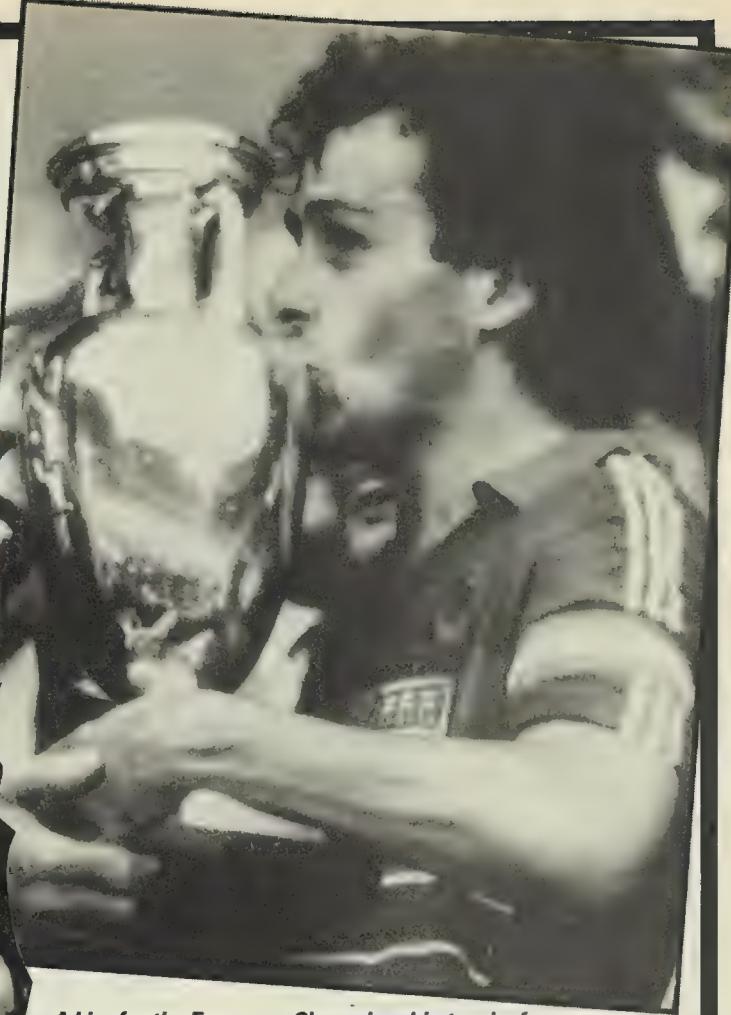
TEAM TO WATCH: With the advantage of playing in front of their own fans, I think host nation France will emerge as European Champions this year. They looked good in beating England 2-0 in February when I felt they could have stepped up another gear if necessary.

They also impressed me in the 1982 World Cup Finals.



A kiss for the European Championship trophy from French skipper Michel Platini.

FLASHBACK... to the June 9 issue of 'Match' when Leicester's John O'Neill predicted a French victory in the European Championship.



And this is what the stars said...

"I've an idea that Belgium could be the surprise packet... despite losing some of their best players. They look a good outside bet" — Brian Flynn (Wales).

"I would like to see Denmark do well. They have come a long way over the last few years and their skill and flair could pose quite a threat" — Joey Jones (Wales).

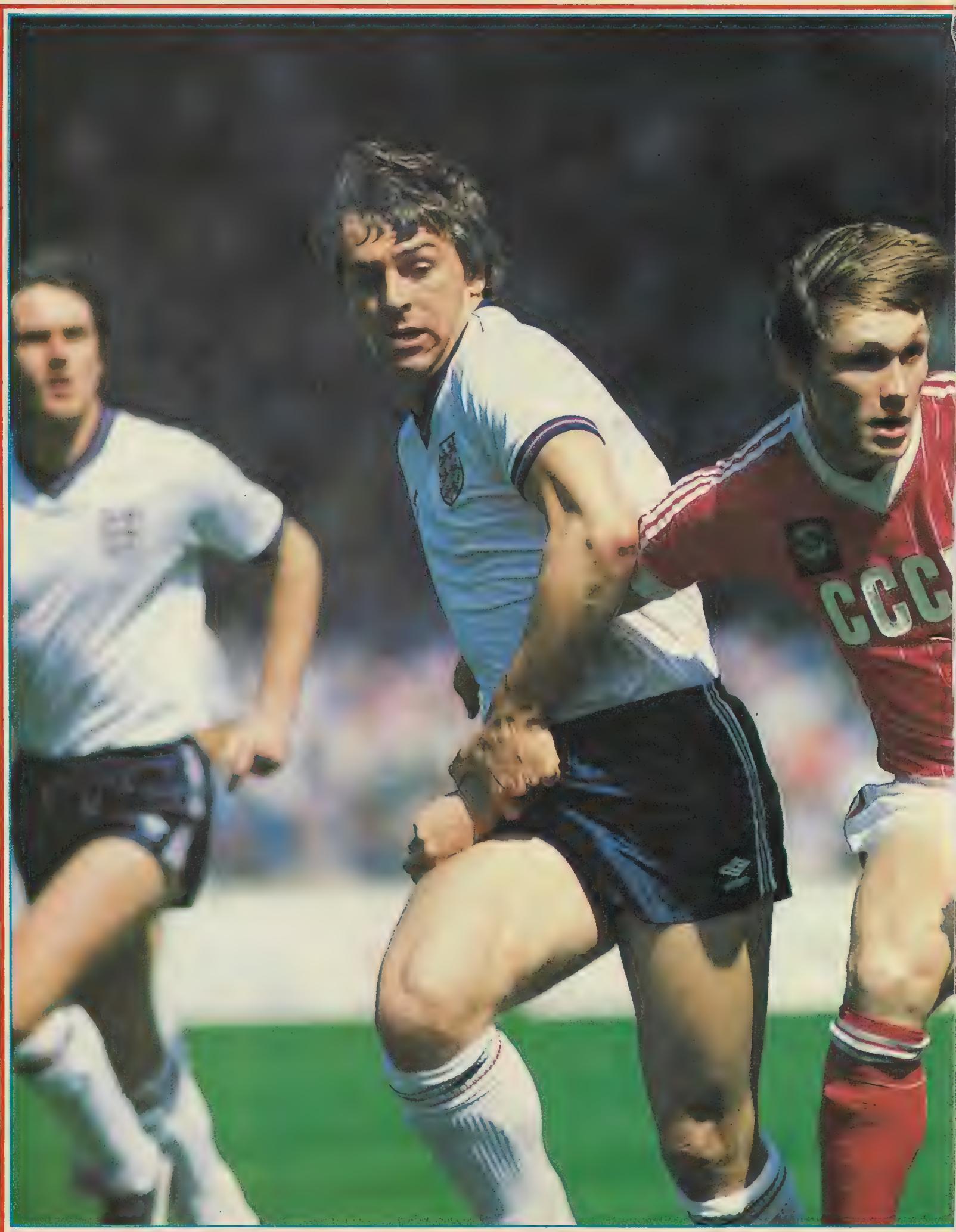
"I love watching the French and I think their exciting, attacking style will be rewarded this summer" — Chris Hughton (Eire).

"France must be hot favourites but Belgium would be my tip for an outside bet. They showed in the World Cup that they are capable of causing an upset" — Billy Hamilton (Northern Ireland).

"I'll stick my neck out and go for Portugal. I think they could surprise a few people in the Finals" — Alex McLeish (Scotland).

"France look good bets to me and I can't really see anyone upsetting them especially in their own back yard" — John Wark (Scotland).

"I've a sneaky feeling for Portugal. Most of their squad has been assembled from Benfica and Porto and that must help them play well as a team" — Mark Lawrenson (Eire).





Tottenham hard man Graham Roberts puts the 'block' on Russian striker Oleg Blokhin (right) during England's disappointing 2-0 defeat at Wembley in May. The Tottenham defender is recovering from an appendicitis operation after being taken to hospital in Rio de Janeiro during the England tour of South America.

match

MATCH ALL-STARS

THE Match Weekly XI — chosen from the top players in our ratings:

ROSE (Hereford)	PEJIC (Hereford)	WIGNALL (Colchester)
FOSTER (Mansfield)	MacPHAIL (York)	HOOD (York)
SNODIN (Doncaster)	BIRCH (Chesterfield)	DOUGLAS (Doncaster)
BYRNE (York)	WALWYN (York)	

'KEEPERS

1 Fred Barber (Darlington)	.....	6.82
1 Kevin Rose (Hereford)	.....	6.82
3 Mike Salmon (Stockport)	.....	6.80
4 Stuart Naylor (Crewe)	.....	6.78
5 Roger Jones (York)	.....	6.78
6 David Seaman (P'borough)	.....	6.68
7 John Turner (Torquay)	.....	6.67
8 Scott Endersby (Swindon)	.....	6.64
9 Richard Coles (Aldershot)	.....	6.60
10 Alan Judge (Reading)	.....	6.56

DEFENDERS

1 John MacPhail (York)	.....	7.18
2 Mel Paisie (Hereford)	.....	7.12
2 Steve Wignall (Colchester)	.....	7.12
4 George Foster (Mansfield)	.....	7.06
5 Dean Emerson (Stockport)	.....	6.98
6 Colin Baswell (Blackpool)	.....	6.94
7 Steve Heitzke (B'ham)	.....	6.94
7 Bob Scott (Crewe)	.....	6.92
8 Ricky Sheard (York)	.....	6.92
9 Russell Lewis (W'ham)	.....	6.92

MIDFIELD

1 Ian Smethurst (Doncaster)	.....	7.05
1 Alan Smith (Chesterfield)	.....	6.96
3 Brian Ladd (W'ham)	.....	6.95
4 Ian Naylor (Crewe)	.....	6.95
5 Steve Lovell (W'ham)	.....	6.94
6 Gary Goss (Swindon)	.....	6.92
7 Tony Adams (Arsenal)	.....	6.91
8 Alan Lister (B'ham)	.....	6.87
9 Mike Dunham (Mansfield)	.....	6.87
10 Terry Lowry (M'chester)	.....	6.87

STRIKERS

1 John Byrne (York)	.....	7.32
2 Keith Walwyn (York)	.....	7.24
3 Colin Douglas (Doncaster)	.....	6.97
4 Alan Walsh (Darlington)	.....	6.78
4 Bob Newton (Chesterfield)	.....	6.78
6 Dale Banton (Aldershot)	.....	6.71
7 Tony Adcock (Colchester)	.....	6.69
7 Ernie Moss (Doncaster)	6.69
9 Paul Stewart (Blackpool)	6.68
10 Andy Rowland (Swindon)	6.64

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Name

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REVEALING our Fourth Division 'Matchman of the Year' honours for 1983-84. The ratings are based on marks for League performances for one club taken from our exclusive 'Match Facts' service.



John Byrne (left) — 'Matchman of the Year' in Division Four.

FIRST

SHARP-shooting John Byrne and Keith Walwyn, York City's 'Terrible Twins' who shot down Fourth Division defences with their goalscoring act last season, topped the section's 'Matchman of the Year' honours board.

They were first and second respectively after blasting York to

the Championship with 52 League goals between them, and to complete a hat-trick for the rejuvenated 'Minster Men', 'Player of the Year' John MacPhail took third place.

Manchester-born Byrne, the top marksman with 27 goals, averaged 7.32 with 28-year-old West Indian Keith, a bargain £4,000 signing from Chesterfield, on 7.24.

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TOP TWENTY

Player	Av. rating
1 John Byrne (York)	7.32
2 Keith Walwyn (York)	7.24
3 John MacPhail (York)	7.10
4 Ian Snodin (Doncaster)	7.05
5 Mel Pejic (Hereford)	7.02
5 Steve Wignall (Colchester)	7.02
7 George Foster (Mansfield)	7.00
8 Colin Douglas (Doncaster)	6.97
9 Alan Birch (Chesterfield)	6.96
10 Dean Emerson (Stockport)	6.95
11 Derek Hood (York)	6.90
12 Colin Greenall (Blackpool)	6.89
13 Ian McDonald (Aldershot)	6.86
14 Ian Benjamin (Peterborough)	6.85
15 Steve Hetzke (Blackpool)	6.84
15 Bob Scott (Crewe)	6.84
15 Gary Ford (York)	6.84
18 Fred Barber (Darlington)	6.82
18 Kevin Rose (Hereford)	6.82
18 Russell Lewis (Northampton)	6.82
18 Lawrie Sanchez (Reading)	6.82
18 Ricky Sbragia (York)	6.82

● THE table shows the most consistent performers in the Fourth Division last season together with their average mark. To qualify, players must have played at least 30 League games for one club.

DEGREE BYRNE!

Central defender John, a free-transfer signing from Sheffield United at the start of last season, also chipped in with ten goals as York swept to a new points record of 101.

In all, there were six of the successful York side in the top twenty, the others being midfield men Derek Hood and Gary Ford and defender Ricky Sbragia.

Following the York trio was Doncaster's Ian Snodin, the highly-rated midfield player.

DIVISION FOUR MATCHMEN OF THE MONTH

HERE's your check on who won the monthly honours last season.

SEPTEMBER — John Byrne (York) 7.85.

OCTOBER — Keith Walwyn (York) 7.66.

NOVEMBER — Keith Curle (Torquay) 8.00.

DECEMBER — Mike Salmon (Stockport) 7.66.

JANUARY — Adrian Burrows (Northampton) 8.33.

FEBRUARY — Lawrie Sanchez (Reading) 7.75.

MARCH — John Bird (Hartlepool) 7.66.

APRIL — Alan Brown (Doncaster) 8.00.

MAY — Dave Caldwell (Mansfield) 8.33.



Ian Snodin — top mid-fielder.



Fred Barber — joint top goal-keeper.



Top defender
John MacPhail
with his player
of the year
award.

FORMER Molineux favourite Kenny Hibbett fears Wolves are condemned to a lengthy stay outside the First Division.

And he believes the famous club are now paying a high price for mistakes made over the past few years.

"I just can't see them bouncing straight back from Division Two like we did in 1977 and 1983," says the 33-year-old midfield stalwart who decided to quit the club after rejecting a one-year contract.

"The squad should have been strengthened after both promotion seasons in order for the club to stabilise itself in the First Division rather in the way Nottingham Forest did in 1977."

"Forest bought in several experienced players after promotion. It cost them money but it has paid rich dividends.

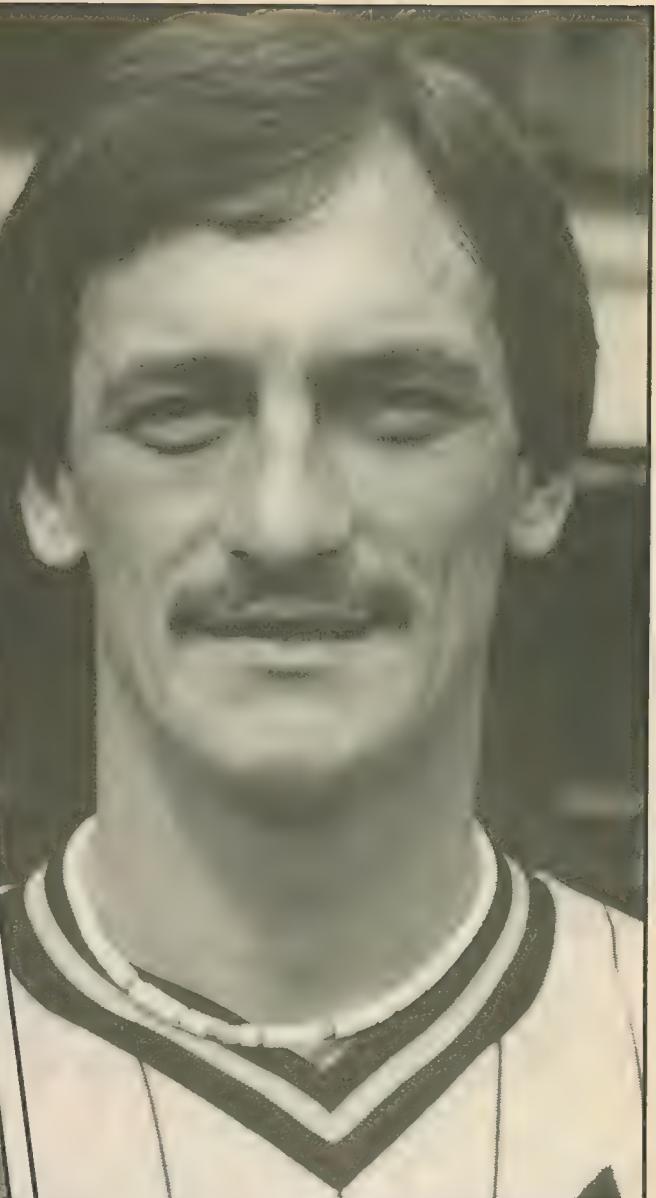
"Wolves merely sat back expecting the promotion side to do the business in the First, but there's one heck of a difference between the divisions.

"Now things have gone sadly wrong for the club, with drastically falling gates and no money to buy new players.

"And they are going to face a lot of good teams in the Second Division, so I fear it may take some time before they are back where they belong — in the top flight.

"I hope I'm wrong for the sake of the fans who have had to endure six or seven terrible seasons. They are shouting for success, but I just can't see it coming straight away."

Kenny revealed that he was prepared to battle it out at Molineux and help rebuild the



Kenny Hibbett (right) — ended a 16-year association with Wolves, and Mel Eves, also given a free transfer by the Molineux club.

WAIT FOR IT WOLVES

future even at a reduced salary, but the club weren't prepared to make him any promise of a job at the end of his playing career.

"The offer was simply a one-year playing contract at reduced wages with nothing at the end of it. It was worth nothing to me and my family has to come before any loyalty to the club," he points out.

"If there had been the promise of a coaching job at the end of my playing days, then I probably would have stayed but they didn't offer me the kind of loyalty I had shown them for 16 years.

"I believe I'm still capable of playing for at least another two years and I was prepared to take a cut in wages in the light of the club's financial problems.

"But there was no indication that my future would be at Molineux so I had no alternative but to take a free

transfer and finish my playing days elsewhere.

"It's a wrench to leave after so long with one club because I've enjoyed my time here and had a great relationship with the fans, but I'm not as sick inside as I expected to be."

The former Bradford Park Avenue player admits that he hasn't enjoyed his football over the past year — another reason why the decision to leave Molineux has come easier than expected.

"I have enjoyed the majority of my time with the club and they have given me a reasonable life, but all good

things have to come to an end at some time and you've got to accept it," he says.

"I want to start enjoying my football again and that's why I have kept my options open. I'm not short of offers but I've got to be certain in my own mind that I'm making the right decision."

Only a few weeks ago, Kenny turned down a lucrative offer to return to Vancouver Whitecaps, but he has no regrets about that decision.

"Vancouver made me a very good offer but I wasn't sure that my family would settle out there," he says.

'There's no easy way back' warns Hibbett

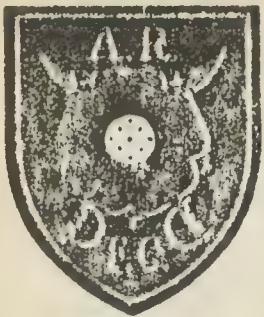
"If they were unhappy then I wouldn't be able to perform at my best and it is important that my family come first."

There's a strong possibility that Kenny could end his career in the First Division.

"I've had offers from First Division clubs and I feel I can still do a good job in the top flight. I may be 33, but I'm very fit and injury-free. In comparison to the likes of Billy Bonds and Trevor Brooking, I'm only a baby!"

"There are too many good and experienced players quitting the First Division far too early and, as a result, the standard is gradually falling."

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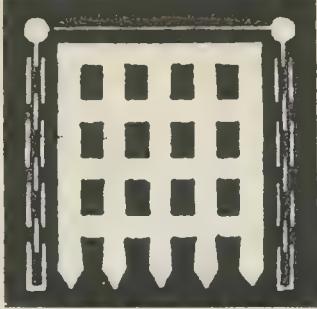
Albion

Manager: Benny Rooney.
Division: Two.
Position: 14th.
Points: 27.
Goals for: 46.
Against: 76.
Biggest wins: 4-1 v East Fife and 3-0 v Arbroath.
Biggest defeat: 5-0 v Dunfermline.
Top scorers (League): Thomas McGorm 13, Tony Gallagher 7.
Scottish Cup: McGorm 1.
League Cup: Henry Gray 1.
Penalty king: McGorm 3.
Hat-tricks: None.
Average home gate: 397.
Up or down: +62.



Alloa

Manager: Jim Thomson.
Division: One.
Position: 14th.
Points: 26.
Goals for: 41.
Against: 64.
Biggest win: 7-2 v Clydebank.
Biggest defeat: 5-0 v Partick and Dundee United (League Cup).
Top scorers (League): David Lloyd 10, Andrew Paterson 6.
Scottish Cup: Stuart Munro 1.
League Cup: Garner 5.
Penalty king: Garner 3.
Hat-tricks: None.
Average home gate: 772.
Up or down: -770.



Arbroath

Manager: George Fleming.
Division: Two.
Position: 5th.
Points: 42.
Goals for: 51.
Against: 46.
Biggest wins: 4-0 v Montrose and 5-1 v Dalbeattie (Scottish Cup).
Biggest defeat: 5-0 v Queen's Park.
Top scorers (League): John Harley 19, Doug Lees 5.
Scottish Cup: Lees 4.
League Cup: Graham Shaw 1.
Penalty king: William Steele and Graeme Payne 1 each.
Hat-tricks: Lees 1.
Average home gate: 753.
Up or down: +48.



Ayr

Manager: George Caldwell.
Division: One.
Position: 12th.
Points: 32.
Goals for: 56.
Against: 70.
Biggest win: 5-1 v Meadowbank.
Biggest defeat: 5-0 v Raith.
Top scorers (League): Alan McInally 16, Robert Connor 8.
Scottish Cup: None.
League Cup: McInally 1.
Penalty king: Craig Buchanan 2.
Hat-tricks: None.
Average home gate: 1,365.
Up or down: +184.

CLUB FACT FILE 1983/84



Berwick

Manager: Eric Tait.
Division: Two.
Position: 3rd.
Points: 43.
Goals for: 60.
Against: 38.
Biggest win: 6-1 v Stenhousemuir.
Biggest defeat: 4-0 v Celtic (Scottish Cup).
Top scorers (League): Anthony O'Hara 10, Peter Davidson 8.
Scottish Cup: O'Hara and Tait 1 each.
League Cup: Stuart Romaines 2.
Penalty king: Hugh McCann and David Steedman 2 each.
Hat-tricks: O'Hara 1.
Average home gate: 520.
Up or down: -44.



Brechin

Manager: Ian Fleming.
Division: One.
Position: 5th.
Points: 42.
Goals for: 56.
Against: 58.
Biggest wins: 4-1 v Ayr and 3-0 v Clyde.
Biggest defeat: 6-0 v Raith.
Top scorers (League): Ian Campbell 19, John Fleming 10.
Scottish Cup: None.
League Cup: None.
Penalty king: Campbell 3.
Hat-tricks: None.
Average home gate: 761.
Up or down: +154.



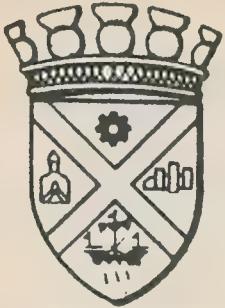
Celtic

Manager: David Hay.
Division: Premier.
Position: 2nd.
Points: 50.
Goals for: 80.
Against: 41.
Biggest wins: 6-0 v East Fife and Motherwell (Scottish Cup).
Biggest defeats: 4-2 v St Mirren, 3-1 v Aberdeen and Dundee United.
Top scorers (League): Brian McClair 23, Frank McGarvey 10.
Scottish Cup: McClair 6.
League Cup: Mark Reid 4.
Penalty king: Reid 6.
Hat-tricks: McClair 2.
Average home gate: 18,390.
Up or down: -5,356.
Most League appearances: Murdo MacLeod, P. McStay 34.



Clyde

Manager: Craig Brown.
Division: One.
Position: 8th.
Points: 37.
Goals for: 53.
Against: 50.
Biggest win: 5-0 v Raith.
Biggest defeat: 3-0 v Brechin.
Top scorers (League): Derek Frye 16, Daniel Masterton 9.
Scottish Cup: Tommy O'Neill and Robert Reilly 1 each.
League Cup: Daniel Docherty 1.
Penalty king: Brian Ahern 1.
Hat-tricks: Frye 2.
Average home gate: 737.
Up or down: -126.



Clydebank

Coach: Sam Henderson.
Division: One.
Position: 4th.
Points: 45.
Goals for: 62.
Against: 50.
Biggest win: 4-0 v Kilmarnock.
Biggest defeat: 7-2 v Alloa.
Top scorers (League): Tom Coyne 10, James Given 9.
Scottish Cup: Gerald McCabe 2.
League Cup: Robert Williamson 4.
Penalty king: Given 6.
Hat-tricks: Coyne 2.
Average home gate: 812.
Up or down: -66.



Cowdenbeath

Manager: John Clark.
Division: Two.
Position: 13th.
Points: 29.
Goals for: 44.
Against: 58.
Biggest win: 4-0 v Queen's Park.
Biggest defeat: 5-1 v East Fife and 4-0 v Stirling.
Top scorers (League): John Mitchell and Ian Paterson 6 each.
Scottish Cup: David Shanks, Robert Miller, Ken Ward and Steve Gavin 1 each.
League Cup: Brian Christie 3.
Penalty king: Mitchell 2.
Hat-tricks: None.
Average home gate: 412.
Up or down: +69.



Dumbarton

Manager: David Wilson.
Division: One.
Position: 2nd.
Points: 51.
Goals for: 66.
Against: 44.
Biggest win: 4-1 v Raith (Scottish Cup), Airdrie and 3-0 v Meadowbank, Falkirk and Brechin.
Biggest defeat: 5-0 v Hibernian (League Cup).
Top scorers (League): Joe Coyle 16, John Bourke 13.
Scottish Cup: Kenny Ashwood 2.
League Cup: Joe McGrogan.
Penalty king: Coyle 8.
Hat-tricks: None.
Average home gate: 1,290.
Up or down: +269.



Dundee

Manager: Archie Knox.
Division: Premier.
Position: 8th.
Points: 27.
Goals for: 50.
Against: 74.
Biggest win: 4-1 v Hearts, Montrose (League Cup) and 3-0 v St Johnstone (League Cup).
Biggest defeat: 6-2 v Celtic, 4-0 v St Mirren.
Top scorers (League): Iain Ferguson and Walker McCall 13 each.
Scottish Cup: Ferguson 4.
League Cup: Ferguson and McCall 4 each.
Penalty king: Ferguson 6.
Hat-tricks: None.
Average home gate: 7,508.
Up or down: +697.
Most League appearances: Tom McKinlay 35, Ferguson 33.

CLUB FACT FILE 1983/84



Dundee U

Manager: Jim McLean.
Division: Premier.
Position: 3rd.
Points: 47.
Goals for: 67.
Against: 39.
Biggest win: 7-0 v St Johnstone.
Biggest defeat: 5-1 v Aberdeen and 4-0 v St Mirren.
Top scorers (League): Davie Dodds 15, Billy Kirkwood 9.
Scottish Cup: Paul Sturrock 2.
League Cup: Dodds and Richard Gough 6 each.
Penalty king: Eamonn Bannon 5.
Hat-tricks: Dodds 1.
Average home gate: 11,057.
Up or down: -80.
Most League appearances: Paul Hegarty 36, Hamish McAlpine 35.



Dumferline

Manager: Jim Leishman.
Division: Two.
Position: 9th.
Points: 36.
Goals for: 45.
Against: 46.
Biggest win: 5-0 v Albion.
Biggest defeat: 6-1 v Dundee United (League Cup).
Top scorers (League): Steve Morrison 9, Grant Jenkins 6.
Scottish Cup: Robert Stewart 2.
League Cup: Morrison 1.
Penalty king: Morrison 1.
Hat-tricks: None.
Average home gate: 897.
Up or down: -895.



East Fife

Manager: David Clarke.
Division: Two.
Position: 2nd.
Points: 47.
Goals for: 57.
Against: 42.
Biggest win: 5-0 v Queen of the South (Scottish Cup).
Biggest defeat: 6-0 v Celtic (Scottish Cup).
Top scorers (League): Gordon Durie 16, Paul Burt and Graham Hutt 6 each.
Scottish Cup: Hutt 3.
League Cup: Tom McCafferty 2.
Penalty king: Durie 7.
Hat-tricks: Bobby Russell 1.
Average home gate: 616.
Up or down: +79.



East Stirling

Manager: William Little.
Division: Two.
Position: 11th.
Points: 31.
Goals for: 51.
Against: 66.
Biggest win: 3-1 v Fraserburgh (Scottish Cup) and 2-0 v Montrose.
Biggest defeat: 4-1 v East Fife and 3-0 v Arbroath.
Top scorers (League): Charles Gibson 13, John Wilson 11.
Scottish Cup: Wilson 2.
League Cup: Gibson 1.
Penalty king: Wilson 6.
Hat-tricks: None.
Average home gate: 406.
Up or down: +106.

AS Martin Hodge excitedly awaits a return to the First Division next season, he has told of the tortuous spell at boyhood idols Everton which threatened to wreck his career.

The Sheffield Wednesday 'keeper admits: "There were times when I feared I'd never be fit enough to play again."

Martin joined the 'Toffees' from Plymouth for £135,000 in July 1979 and the following season made 23 First Division appearances as well as starring in Everton's two FA Cup Semi-Final classics against West Ham.

But he says: "After those Cup games, everything suddenly started going downhill for me.

"For the next three seasons I struggled against injury and illness. First of all I had knee trouble which kept occurring until it was discovered I had seriously

Below: Neville Southall — beat Martin Hodge in the battle for the Everton goalkeeper's jersey.



HODGE'S HELL!

...but the nightmare's over now for Martin

damaged ligaments and had to have an operation.

"Then I went through a traumatic time when the doctors feared I might be suffering from the potentially killer disease, cancer.

"That was an agonising time for me. Over one three-day period, I lost half a stone in weight worrying about it."

Martin had two operations on his chest, but in the end, surgeons found nothing sinister, although he admits: "I never want to go through such torment again."

Injury and illness weren't Martin's only problems as he fought a losing three-year battle to regain his place in the Goodison Park side.

He says: "When Howard Kendall came to the club I was injured, so he bought Neville Southall from Bury and Jim Arnold from Blackburn.

"The manager obviously didn't rate me because, when I was fit, I spent more time on loan to different clubs than I actually did at Goodison Park."

All in all, wanderer Martin was farmed out twice to neighbours Preston and also had stints with Second Division Oldham and Gillingham.

And when he was at Everton he usually found himself banished to the 'A' team. Martin says: "It

wasn't much fun playing teams like Prescot Cables on a cold, windy night in November."

Seeing no future for himself at his beloved Everton, Martin began to consider a transfer and he admits: "I was so desperate for first team football that I seriously thought about staying at Gillingham when my loan period finished there.

"That was despite the fact that I didn't want to move my family down south or play in the Third Division. In the end, the only thing that stopped the deal going through was the clubs not being able to agree a fee.

"Once you drop down into the Third or Fourth Division it's very difficult to get back to the top and, if I had gone to Priestfield, I could have found myself in the lower reaches for the next ten years."

Martin was back to square one but, at the beginning of last season, he resolved to make one final push to establish himself as the Everton number one.

He says: "I turned up for pre-season training determined to go all-out for a first team place. I felt the number one jersey was still up for grabs as neither Jim nor Neville had really pushed their claims."

But his hopes were dashed when he didn't even get a reserve game in the warm-up matches and



Martin Hodge — feared for his future in the game.

he realised that his days at Everton were over.

Sheffield Wednesday manager Howard Wilkinson offered the 25-year-old a lifeline just before the season kicked off, but Martin admits: "I didn't really want to go to Hillsborough.

"The club wanted me on loan and I was tired of having to prove myself. I wanted someone to have enough faith in my ability to buy me.

"And I was worried that he only wanted me as temporary cover. After all, he had just paid £50,000 to Blackpool for England Under-21 'keeper Iain Hesford and I didn't expect him to start in the reserves.

"But I went there because Howard Wilkinson hadn't seen me play. Therefore you couldn't expect him to buy me straight away. He also promised I'd start on equal terms with Iain."

The 'Owls' boss was so impressed with his loanee that he pitched him into Wednesday's first game of the season against Swansea and Martin says: "I haven't looked back since."

"It was an excellent season for the team because we won promotion and a very good one for me because I got my confidence and consistency back."

"And after struggling against injury for so long, it was tremendous to go a whole campaign without once having to see the physio."

Martin admits that much of the praise for his form last season should go to former Sheffield United and England 'keeper Alan Hodgkinson — a coach at Wednesday.

He says: "Winning promotion was my way of saying 'thank you' for all he did for me last term."

match



PAUL HART
Forest

KENNY SANSOM

Arsenal and England



match

IT was just as well the home nations weren't represented in the European Championship Finals. We'd have been played off the park!

Judging by the TV coverage, which was very limited considering the importance of the event, sides like France, Spain and Denmark would have destroyed our teams with their superior skills and flair.

Britain's international sides need to improve their basic skills before they can compete with Europe's elite.

David MacDonald, Bearsden, near Glasgow.

● **RUBBISH.** The last time England played France in a competitive event — the 1982 World Cup Finals — England won 3-1. There's no great gulf between the teams in France and our home countries in terms of skill.

COULD you please tell me whether the results have been published for the European Power Game competition featured in 'Match' during February?

I've bought every copy since but haven't seen the results published.

Kirk Owers, Maidstone, Kent.

● **MANCHESTER** United boss Ron Atkinson agreed to judge the competition but, so far, we have yet to receive his winning line-up. We expect to give the result before the start of the new season.

I CANNOT understand why Eire striker Michael Robinson was out of favour at Liverpool towards the end of the season.

Robinson played a significant part in the Anfield side's march to the First Division Championship. His hat-trick in the 3-1 victory at West Ham was masterly.

It was unfair to leave Robinson out of the side during the end-of-season formalities, especially when Kenny Dalglish was looking so jaded.

Aidan Kivlehan, Dublin, Republic of Ireland.

SOME of the prices for refreshments at Wembley Stadium are a rip-off.

I went to see England schoolboys play Holland on a particularly hot day. But a sign at the Wembley gates said that you were not allowed to take drinks inside.

Stalls inside Wembley were selling packets of crisps (35p), a can of Coke (55p and 65p) and tubs of popcorn (70p). My £2 didn't last very long!

It's unfair of these sellers to exploit schoolboys in this way.

Jason Bryant (14), Bobber's Mill, Nottingham.

● **OUR** information is that crisps in fact were 30p. Coke cost 40p or 60p depending on the size of the cup and popcorn was selling for 50p. A spokesman for Wembley said that prices charged are "compatible with the London area". People are not allowed to take drinks inside because it is company policy under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act.



Edited by Mick Weavers

WELCOME to the best read letters page in football . . . with unique prizes for every reader who gets his or her letter published!

Yes, throughout the year we'll be giving away a super metal lapel badge (pictured) to every person whose comments are published in 'Match' and each badge will carry that special 'Terrace Talk' logo.

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Plus we will be giving a prize of £10 for what we consider to be the star letter of the week and, of course, the sender will also receive a 'Terrace Talk' badge.

So get those letters coming in NOW and you could be the envy of your friends.

Write to: Michael Weavers, 'Terrace Talk' Editor, Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.



Mark Chamberlain — made to suffer.

HOW sad that England's young black stars, John Barnes and Mark Chamberlain, had to suffer the racist chants of hooligan England fans on their flight to Uruguay during their South American tour.

Barnes and Chamberlain proved to be great successes on England's three-match tour and deserved praise not taunts.

The morons that jeered Barnes and Chamberlain are typical of the kind of worthless people that are destroying our game. The sooner they are cleared from Britain's football terraces, the better.

Michael Beecher, Walthamstow, London.

I NOTICED in the June 16 issue of 'Match' that the Ipswich Town programme had been voted 'programme of the year'.

As an avid programme collector, Ipswich would figure only fifth in my list of top ten programmes:

- 1 Manchester United.
- 2 Aston Villa.
- 3 Arsenal.
- 4 West Ham.
- 5 Ipswich.
- 6 Everton.
- 7 Norwich.
- 8 Leicester.
- 9 Tottenham.

IT'S TOUGH ON SPURS

I WAS furious to learn that Spurs had been fined £7,500 for fielding a weakened team in their League game at Southampton last season.

What were they expected to do — risk injuries and tire out their first eleven just two days before their UEFA Cup Final first leg against Anderlecht?

Spurs' dramatic victory over the Belgians — and Liverpool's superb win against Roma in the European Cup Final — gave British football a much-needed shot in the arm. Their efforts should be applauded.



not degraded by a petty fine over technicalities.

Anyone would think that the Football League doesn't want our clubs to succeed in Europe.

Sally Verrall, St Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

● **IT'S** the League who should be fined — for refusing to postpone Tottenham's game against Southampton. Their attitude towards our international teams and clubs involved in European competitions is just plain obstinate.

10 Queen's Park Rangers.
Andrew Jennings, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

MARK Rigby submitted in 'Terrace Talk' last month a complete run-down on the First Division teams featured in 'Match of the Day' and 'The Big Match' last season.

Liverpool and Manchester United headed the screenings league, obviously, but I was annoyed to find that Arsenal appeared on the box just five times.

Considering the 'Gunners' were second top scorers in the First Division last season, they should have been featured much more often.

Arsenal are a side of great entertainers . . . and deserve much more of the TV limelight. Stephen Durbin (10), Neath, West Glamorgan.

● **ARSENAL** were probably glad that the TV companies kept away from Highbury during the first half of last season. It was only during the latter stages of the term that they got their act together.

HERE'S my football top ten:

- 1 High Energy — Ian Rush.
- 2 Take A Look At Me Now — Luther Blissett.
- 3 Is There Something I Should Know? — Bobby Robson.
- 4 Footloose — Charlie Nicholas.
- 5 Two Tribes — Celtic and Rangers.
- 6 The Reflex — Bruce Grobbelaar.
- 7 Thriller — France v Portugal.
- 8 Relax — the close-season.
- 9 Thinking of You — Graeme Souness to Liverpool.
- 10 Let's Hear It For The Boy — Michel Platini.

Sheryl Warner (13), Norwich, Norfolk.

IN VIEW of Britain's failure to supply any of the Finalists for the 1984 European Championship, surely a Great Britain team would be to our advantage.

I mean, we could then simply choose the Chelsea side and win every international competition in sight!

Keith Hughes, Millwall, London.

● **HOW** many internationals do you have at Stamford Bridge then? I make it two.



A

NAME THAT GOAL

PICTURED are four great Wembley goals, but can you say who scored them, who against, on what occasion and in what year? Why not challenge your friends and see who gets the most correct? The answers are at the foot of the page.



B



C



D

ANSWERS: Picture A — Glen Hoddle for Spurs against QPR, FA Cup Final, 1982; Picture B — Bryan Robson for Manchester United against Liverpool, FA Cup Final, 1983; Picture C — Ronnie Whelan for United against Liverpool, Charity Shield, 1983; Picture D — Frank Stapleton for Manchester United against Brighton, FA Cup Final, 1982.

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EUROPEAN CUP FINALS: 1968 £1, 1977 £2, 1978 50p, 1979 £2.50, 1980 £2.50, 1982 £3, 1984 £1.50.

CUP WINNER'S CUP FINAL: 1980 £1.75.

UEFA CUP FINAL: 1984 Anderlecht v Spurs £3, Spurs v Anderlecht £1, European Super Cup Final 1978 Anderlecht v Liverpool £1, Liverpool v Anderlecht 50p.

SEMI FINALS: F.A. CUP 1974: Leicester v Liverpool 75p, 1977 Everton v Liverpool £2, replays £1, 1978 WBA v Ipswich 50p, 1980 Arsenal v Liverpool 60p, 1980 WHU v Everton 60p, replay 60p, 1981 Spurs v Wolves 50p, replays 50p, 1981 Man. C. v Ipswich 50p, 1982 Spurs v Leicester 50p, 1983 Brighton v Sheffield Wednesday 75p, 1983 Arsenal v Man. U. 60p, 1984 Southampton v Everton 50p, 1984 Plymouth v Watford 50p.

MILK CUP SEMI FINALS: 75/76 Newcastle v Spurs 40p, 77/78 Everton v Bolton 50p, 79/80 Forest v Liverpool 60p, Wolves v Swindon 50p, Swindon v Wolves 50p, 80/81 Coventry v WHU 60p, 81/2 Ipswich v Liverpool 50p, 82/3 Burnley v Liverpool 50p, 83/4 Liverpool v Walsall 50p, Everton v Aston Villa 50p.

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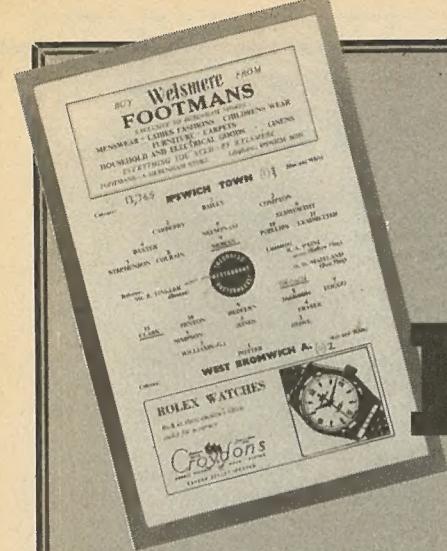
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Programme Parade

BROWN'S BOMB RUN!

THE family doctor can be thanked for his part in putting Tony 'Bomber' Brown on the path to record-breaking success with West Brom.

As a child, he suffered from chronic asthma, and it was the doctor who advised him that the best medicine was to go out on the sports field and get involved in as much activity as possible.

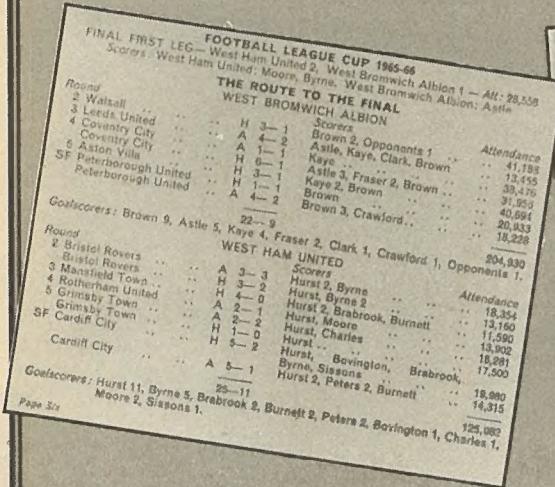
By the time he was 14, the complaint had disappeared and the way was clear for Tony to begin a 16-year association with Albion which brought him winners' medals in the FA and League Cups, plus one full England cap.

When he quit The Hawthorns in 1980, he had established a club record 574 League appearances and smashed Ronnie Allen's goalscoring record with 218 League goals.

Here we recall some of Tony's career highlights through the pages of the programmes concerned.

Saturday, Sept. 28, 1963

A PROUD day for Tony as he makes his League debut at Ipswich just two days after signing professional forms and, to make it a dream come true, he scored the equalising goal to set up Albion's 2-1 victory.



Wednesday, March 23, 1966

THE route to the Final (above), taken from West Brom's League Cup Final, second leg, programme, illustrates Tony's record-breaking achievement of scoring in every round.

His headed goal in the 4-1 victory, which gave Albion the trophy 5-3 on aggregate, took his tally to ten in nine matches, which included a hat-trick in the Semi-Final victory over Peterborough.

The following season Albion were in the Final again, but this time they finished second best to Third Division QPR in the first-ever League Cup Final at Wembley.

Saturday, May 18, 1968

A DAY to remember (right) for Tony as he helped West Brom win the FA Cup at Wembley with a 1-0 extra-time defeat of Everton.

The vital goal came from England striker Jeff Astle, but it was a goal from Tony in the Semi-Final with Birmingham at Villa Park which guaranteed Albion their trip to Wembley.

After Astle had put Albion ahead early in the match, Birmingham threatened to take charge until Tony popped up to seal matters in the 67th minute.



THEY STAND...

LEAGUE TABLE—DIVISION 2
(Up to and incl. 19th April, 1976)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sunderland	40	23	8	9	65	35	54
Bristol C.	40	18	15	7	57	37	51
W.B.A.	41	19	13	9	49	33	51
Bolton	40	18	12	10	57	37	48
Southampton	41	20	7	14	65	50	47
Luton T.	41	18	10	13	58	51	46
Notts. Co.	40	17	11	12	56	40	45
Notts. For.	40	15	12	13	51	40	42
Charlton	41	15	12	14	61	68	42
Blackpool	40	13	14	13	39	46	40
Fulham	41	13	13	15	44	46	39
Chelsea	40	12	15	14	51	52	39
Hull C.	40	14	10	16	45	48	38
Plymouth	41	13	12	16	48	52	38
OLDHAM ATH.	41	13	12	16	48	57	38
Bristol R.	40	11	16	12	57	67	38
Orient	39	12	13	15	44	48	37
Blackburn	40	12	13	17	43	59	34
Carlisle	41	11	11	19	38	57	33
Oxford	41	10	7	24	37	69	27
York C.	40	9	7	24	39	58	25
Portsmouth							

Half-time Scoreboard

Saturday, April 24, 1976

THE Second Division League table from Albion's visit to Oldham shows just how crucial Tony's 55th minute winner was.

With 15,000 travelling fans urging Albion to success, Tony struck a crisp volley to clinch the third promotion spot for Albion in their last game of the season.

West Ham United	West Bromwich Albion
(0)	2
1 Phil Parkes	1 Tony Godden
2 Ray Stewart	2 Brendon Batson
3 Frank Lampard	3 Derek Statton
4 Billy Bonds (capt.)	4 John Trewick
5 Alvin Martin	5 John Wile (capt.)
6 Alan Devonshire	6 Alistair Robertson
7 Paul Allen	7 John Deegan
8 Stuart Pearson	8 Alistair Brown
9 Geoff Pike 52nd	9 Cyrille Regis
10 Trevor Brooking 86th	10 Gary Owen
11 Jimmy Neighbour	11 Peter Barnes
12 Dale Banton	12 Tony Brown 89th
SUBSTITUTES WILL BE ANNOUNCED	
Referee: A. HUNTING (BIRMINGHAM)	
Linenman (Red Flag): K. R. DANIELS (Hythe, Kent)	
Linenman (Orange Flag): A. N. BUCK (London, N.W.19)	

Tuesday, January 8, 1980

THE team-sheet from West Brom's FA Cup Third Round Replay at West Ham (above) shows Tony's last goal for the club. He came on as a substitute to head a late consolation goal in the 2-1 defeat.

It was his 262nd for the club in all domestic competitions, which included 218 in the League, 27 in the FA Cup and 17 in the League Cup.

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LATEST LEAGUE TABLES

NORWAY

(Leading positions)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lillestrom	9	5	3	1	21	11	13
Valerenga	9	6	1	2	13	5	13
Bryne	9	5	2	2	15	12	12
Rosenborg	9	3	5	1	12	8	11
Kongsvinger	9	3	3	3	10	9	9

SWEDEN

(Leading positions)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AIK	10	8	2	0	19	6	18
Gothenburg	10	6	2	2	21	8	14
Hammarby	10	6	2	2	20	9	14
Malmö	10	4	4	2	19	11	12

USSR

(Leading positions)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dnepr	15	10	3	2	25	16	21
Spartak	15	8	5	2	22	13	17
Zenit	14	6	5	3	22	12	17
Torpedo Moscow	15	6	5	1	12	11	17
Dynamo Kiev	15	5	7	3	18	13	17

ENGLAND are the only country so far to have applied to stage the 1988 European Championship Finals.

Maradona mania hits Naples!

NAPLES fans took the Italian city by storm with news of the signing of Argentine star Diego Maradona.

They danced in the streets, lit torches, fired rockets and dived into the sea to celebrate the world record £5.4 million capture of the South American from Spanish giants Barcelona.

Even before the cloak and dagger transfer was complete, Naples fans ruined more than 2,000 ballot papers at the European Parliament elections by signing their papers Diego Maradona instead of voting for a candidate!

And 200 married couples have already christened their babies Armando Diego in honour of the footballer's arrival.

Maradona agreed to sign on the day of the June 30 transfer deadline and the deal was sealed by the club presidents at midnight in the lounge of Barcelona's main international airport.

Maradona says: "I said I would not play for Barcelona any longer and I am delighted the deal has gone through. I've had a hard time in Spain for two years but now I'm joining the strongest League in the world and looking forward to playing some real football."

The departure of Maradona now leaves former QPR boss Terry Venables the problem of finding a replacement at Barcelona.

He's already failed in bids to secure West German striker Rudi Voeller and Tottenham's Scottish striker Steve Archibald.

CUP SUCCESS FOR ROMA

AS ROMA will be Italy's representatives in the European Cup Winners' Cup next season after defeating Verona 2-1 on aggregate in the Final of the Italian Cup.

The only goal in the second leg came from experienced international Francesco Graziani and the victory gave coach Nils Liedholm the ideal send-off.

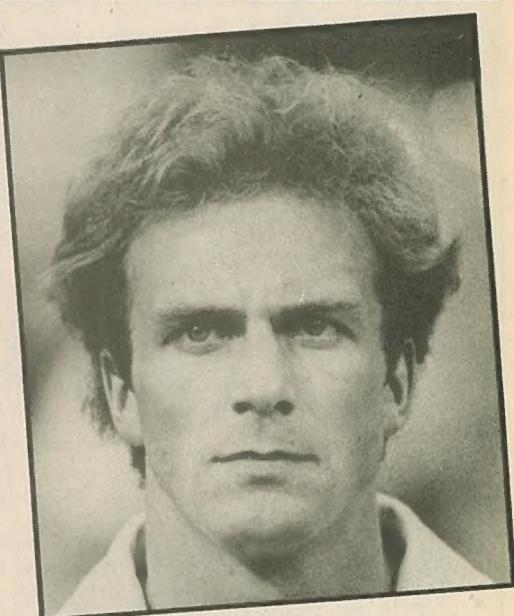
He has quit the club after eight years to rejoin AC Milan saying: "Roma tried to keep me but I decided to move for personal reasons."

Adds the 61-year-old Swede:

"I want to work nearer my home in Northern Italy. I'm fed up with commuting to Rome."

REAL Valladolid are through to next season's UEFA Cup competition after beating Atletico Madrid 3-0 in the second leg of the Spanish League Cup Final.

FRANZ



Karl-Heinz Rummenigge — believes Germany are on their way back to the top.

Yugoslav boss stands down

YUGOSLAVIA manager Todor Veselinovic has resigned following his team's three defeats in the European Championship Finals.

The 55-year-old had to be treated for nervous exhaustion during his team's 5-0 thrashing by Denmark and, when he returned to Belgrade, he claimed that his poor health made it impossible for him to continue in charge of the national team.

But he confounded Yugoslavian FA officials by informing them he was considering taking another job as manager of the Turkish club Fenerbahce.

ITALY-bound Socrates has confirmed that he will be returning to Brazil to resume his medical career when his three-year contract with Fiorentina expires. The bearded Brazilian skipper said farewell to his fans when helping his club, Corinthians, defeat Rio's Vasco de Gama 3-0 in a friendly.

NEW Belgian discovery Enzo Scifo didn't take long to win over the French fans in the European Championship Finals after claiming that he modelled himself on their inspirational skipper Michel Platini.

Scifo, who only obtained his Belgian nationality papers a few days before the Championship began, masterminded Belgium's 2-0 defeat of Yugoslavia in their opening game.

But Belgium themselves were swept aside 5-0 by France in the next game.

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LAURIE CONSIDERS RETURN TO ENGLAND

FORMER West Brom winger Laurie Cunningham considered his free transfer from Spanish giants Real Madrid and declared: "Maybe this is the time to consider returning to England."

Laurie's 'free' comes five years after joining Real for £1million and follows a season spent on loan to Sporting Gijon as he recovered from a series of injury problems.

FIRES UP GERMANY

SKIPPER Karl-Heinz Rummenigge believes Franz Beckenbauer is the man to lead West Germany back to the top in the 1986 World Cup Finals.

After hearing that the former West German star had agreed to take over from Jupp Derwall, who resigned after the European Championship flop, the new Inter-Milan striker said: "We have needed a change for some time and I'm convinced that Beckenbauer is the man for the job."

The 39-year-old has been appointed general manager and will work with Derwall's assistant, Horst Koepel.

"I know it's not an easy job but,

'Don't blame me,' says Arconada

SPAIN goalkeeper and skipper Luis Arconada (right) refuses to accept all the blame for his team's 2-0 defeat by France in the European Championship Final.

He claims that the free-kick goal from Michel Platini which slipped through his grasp to give France the lead would have beaten most goalkeepers.

"The free-kick was well struck and had a wicked spin on it," he says. "I don't accept the blame is all mine. I think we really lost the match in the first half when we failed to score."



in fact, it's not a bad squad I'm taking over," says Beckenbauer, who won a record 103 caps for his country.

"The players need to get back their confidence. You only need to look at Rummenigge and the way he has played lately to see how far the morale has dropped but I think the real problem is in midfield.

"I must approach Bernd Schuster at Barcelona and see if he is keen to come back but, after all the trouble, I need to be sure of his attitude. There have been times in the past when you couldn't be certain he would turn up.

"I might also ask Hansi Muller to come back and maybe switch Uli Stielike into midfield. Then we would play without a traditional and conventional sweeper."



■ A TOTAL of 599,850 fans watched the 15 matches in the European Championship Finals in France. There was an average 84 per cent capacity at each match with the biggest crowd, 54,858, being at the Semi-Final between France and Portugal.



New York next stop for Michel!

FRANCE superstar Michel Platini is bound for America — and probably New York Cosmos — when he ends his contract with Italian Champions Juventus in two years' time.

"There was a chance once that I would move to England but I think it is too late now and I am much more likely to go to America when I finish with Juventus," says the midfield ace.

"I will be a free agent in two years, but I may consider going back to my first French club Nancy for a while before moving on to America.

"Although the North American

League is in a bad way at the moment, I like a challenge and I think we owe something to the future of the game over there."

But before crossing the Atlantic, the European 'Footballer of the Year' hopes to skipper France to success in the 1986 World Cup Finals in Mexico.

"Two years ago in the World Cup Finals, we played beautifully and lost. In the European Championship Finals I think we played slightly less beautifully, but more professionally and won."

Right: Michel Platini — thought or a move to England.

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match

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handing it in at your local
paper shop.

GARY WADDOCK

QPR and Eire

FULL NAME: Gary Patrick Waddock.

BIRTHPLACE/DATE: Kingsbury, London/March 17, 1962.

HEIGHT/WEIGHT: 5ft 9ins/11st 7lbs.

MARRIED: Yes, to Marie.

CHILDREN: None.

CAR: Ford Escort.

PREVIOUS CLUBS: None.

TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: None.

CLUB NICKNAME: 'Waddo'.

WORST EVER INJURY: Cartilage operation in November 1982.

FAVOURITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYER AND WHY: Manchester United and England skipper Bryan Robson — for his all-round ability.

FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Manchester United.

FAVOURITE FOREIGN PLAYER AND WHY: Argentina's Diego Maradona — he's brilliant.

BEST CURRENT BRITISH TEAM:

Shilton, Thomas (both England), Hansen (Scotland), Butcher, Sansom, Hoddle (all England), Souness (Scotland), Robson, Chamberlain (both England), Dalglish (Scotland), Rush (Wales).

BEST INTERNATIONAL XI:

Shilton, Kaltz (W. Germany), O'Leary, Lawrenson (Eire), Junior, Socrates (both Brazil), Robson, Platini (France), Zico (Brazil) Maradona (Argentina), Rumenigge (W. Germany).

FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: Sheffield Wednesday's Hillsborough.

FAVOURITE FOREIGN STADIUM AT WHICH YOU HAVE PLAYED: Real Zaragoza, Spain.

BEST GOAL SCORED: My first in the League for QPR against Fulham in 1979.

BEST GOAL SEEN SCORED: By Ray Wilkins for Manchester United in last year's FA Cup Final against Brighton.

MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: They all are.

MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: 1982 FA Cup Final against Spurs.

OWN MAGIC MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: Playing at Wembley in the above match.

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing the FA Cup Final.

FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Tennis and rugby.

MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Shopping with Marie.

MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Smoking and ignorant people.



STAR SPOT

FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Benny Hill.

TV SHOW YOU ALWAYS SWITCH OFF: Political broadcasts.

FAVOURITE READING: 'Match'.

FAVOURITE POP STAR: George Benson.

FAVOURITE FOOD: Steak pie and mash.

FAVOURITE DRINK: A mug of tea.

BEST COUNTRY VISITED: America.

FAVOURITE

ACTOR/ACTRESS: Peter Sellers and Raquel Welch.

BEST FILM SEEN IN PAST YEAR: An Officer and a Gentleman.

BIGGEST INFLUENCES ON CAREER: Chris Gieler, Theo Foley and Terry Venables.

WHAT YOU DON'T LIKE ABOUT FOOTBALL: Losing.

SUPERSTITIONS: Too many to mention.

PRE-MATCH MEAL:

Scrambled eggs.

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: Eire full, Under-21 and youth caps.

PERSONAL AMBITION: To be happily married and have a lovely family.

PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To win everything with QPR.

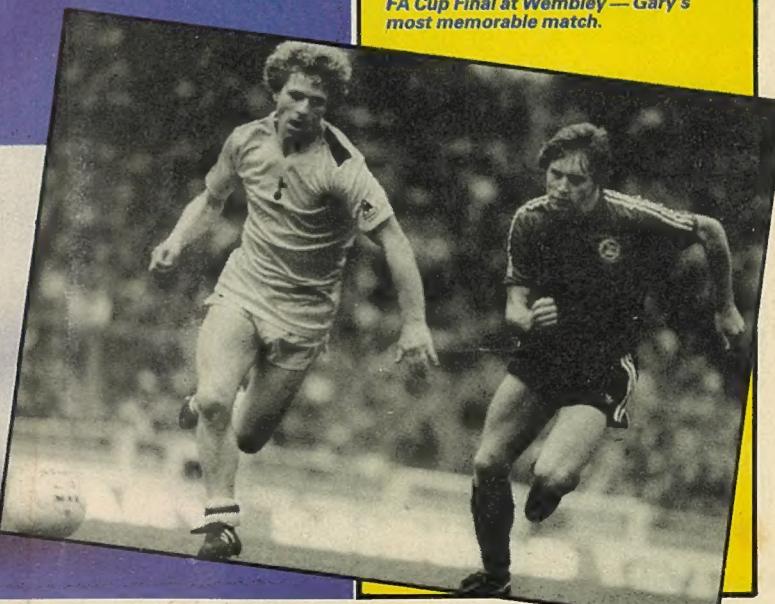
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: I'd like to own my own small business.

PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: QPR youngster David Kerslake.

WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET: Princess Diana.

ADVICE TO YOUNGSTERS: Enjoy every game and always give 100 per cent.

QPR's Gary Waddock (right) chases Mike Hazard of Spurs during the 1982 FA Cup Final at Wembley — Gary's most memorable match.



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